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Wabash Plain Dealer

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FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2020

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Holcomb announces new steps to protect the public from COVID-19

Non-essential gatherings must be limited to no more than 250 people

STAFF REPORT

Gov. Eric J. Holcomb announced Thursday additional steps the state will take to reduce the spread of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in Indiana, according to a press release.

As of noon Thursday, the state has 12 Hoosiers who have tested presumptively positive for COVID-19.

"This is a time when we must do all we can to reduce the spread of COVID-19, protect our most vulnerable populations and reduce their potential to acquire or spread this virus," stated Gov. Holcomb. "While some actions are drastic, now, not later, is the time to act."

Those actions include:

■ Non-essential gatherings must be limited to no more than 250 people. This includes any event or gathering of people who are in one room or a single space at the same time, such as cafeterias, churches, stadiums, meeting and conference rooms, auditoriums and the like. This guidance applies to professional, social, community and similar other gatherings.

■ Effective immediately, school corporations will be provided with a 20-day waiver of the required 180 instructional days for use as needed for the remainder of the academic year. The waived days do not need to be used consecutively and can be leveraged as needed.

■ If a school corporation has evidence of community spread or a confirmed positive test for coronavirus, officials should consult with the Indiana Department of Education and the Indiana State Department of Health for additional steps. Schools should plan now for broader closures, including eLearning and remote classroom options.

■ The Department of Education will release additional guidance detailing the process for submitting waiver requests as early as

See **HOLCOMB**, page A2

Pulse of Wabash

Wabash Plain Dealer's new website now available

Check out our new website at www.wabashplaindealer.com and let us know what you think. If you had an account on our previous site, you will need to create a new account. If you registered with the same email address we will be able to locate your previous subscription as well. Once registered, you can also verify your subscription. Please contact web support@wabashplaindealer.com with any questions. Thank you!

Wabash Plain Dealer's new office now open

The Wabash Plain Dealer's new office is now open on the second floor at 99 W. Canal St.

VFW Post 285 to host tenderloin dinner

The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 285 has planned a tenderloin dinner from 4 to 7 p.m. Friday, March 13 at 3678 W. Old 24. The menu includes hand-breaded tenderloin, potato salad and applesauce. The cost is $9 per person and is open to the public. Carryout is available. For more information, call 260-563-2463.

Access Youth Center to feature music, discuss addiction

Blizz, a Christian rapper, open the event with a sampling of his songs before being joined by members of the local addictions panel from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 13 at 74 W. Canal St. This will be a free program for youth and families and is being co-sponsored by the Wabash County Subcommittee for Drug Prevention.

Create glass-on-glass framed mosaic image inspired by nature

The multi-day classes instructed by local stained glass artist Katy Gray will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, March 13; Monday, March 16; and Tuesday, March 17, at Salamonie Interpretive and Nature Center, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. Participants should plan to attend each meeting. The cost is $60 per person. Each participant will choose one: either a bee, red-tailed hawk or box turtle for their project. All materials will be supplied. Call 260-468-2127 for

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Provided photo

The cover band Prime Suspects is set to perform at a St. Patrick's Day Party from 8 p.m. to midnight Saturday, March 14 at the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) No. 286, 3678 W. Old State Road 24.

Still rocking after more than 20 years

The Prime Suspects to play St. Patrick's Day Party on Saturday

By ROB BURGESS
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

The cover band Prime Suspects is set to perform at a St. Patrick's Day Party from 8 p.m. to midnight Saturday, March 14 at the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) No. 286, 3678 W. Old State Road 24.

The band, which formed in 1999 in Hartford City, has been rocking for more than 20 years now and is still going strong.

In a phone interview, Richard Leach, who plays rhythm guitar, said he first learned how to play his instrument when he was 14 years old.

"I was with a friend. He had a license. Of course, when you're 14 and you've got a friend that's got a license you run around with them," he said. "He took me over to a friend's house and the guy was sitting on the bed playing guitar. … He said, 'Hey you want to learn a few chords?' So he handed me the guitar. I started learning."

It wasn't until he had been playing for about two years already when he realized something was different.

"I went to a guitar store and there was a guitar with the strings backward," said Leach. "I said, 'Well what kind of guitar is that?' And he said, 'It's left-handed.' Well, I've always been left-handed but I didn't know there was such a thing. So I play guitar right-handed."

Leach said he was one of three original members including Doug Hutson, who sings and plays drums, and Jerry Lents, who plays bass and also sings. Leach said lead guitar player John Burrus has been with the band for four years after a number of changes at that position over the years.

Leach said the band plays 30 to 40 shows each year.

"That's why we take January off. We play so much sometimes. We try to get two practices in. But, we'll make sure we get one in or two in January," he said.

The band's song list includes an eclectic mix of rock songs covering several decades and a diverse group of artists from Jimmy Buffett to Creedence Clearwater Revival.

"I'll be 69 this month and we all grew up with that kind of music. Surprisingly, you wouldn't believe how much young kids that weren't even born like this music," he said.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

Local churches prepare for COVID-19

Hand sanitizer distributed, congregants who feel ill encouraged to stay home

By ROB BURGESS
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

As organizations large and small have had to make tough decisions about whether to cancel or postpone gatherings and events due to COVID-19, local churches are considering what steps to take regarding their worship services.

Some, including Mike Bullick, pastor of Asbury Country Church, said they haven't made any changes thus far.

Others, though, are making adjustments.

"Hand sanitizer is available as people walk into the building," said Greg Wilburn, pastor of Walk By Faith Community Church. "We would encourage anyone who is sick to stay home until they get well. We are staying informed about the latest news concerning the virus, and will take further precautions if needed."

In response to a Plain Dealer request Thursday, Wabash Church of the Brethren Pastor Doug Veal and Dennis Horn, board chair, stated they were "encouraging everyone to follow CDC guidelines on taking steps to prevent illness by avoiding exposure."

"This includes but is not limited to washing your hands, avoiding touching your face with unwashed hands, avoiding close contact with those who are

See **CHURCHES**, page A2

COVID-19 concern results in visitation restrictions at all IDOC facilities

The previous notice listed only eight specific locations

STAFF REPORT

While there are presently no known cases of COVID-19 among staff or offenders housed at Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) facilities, the previously announced suspension of visitations at eight specific prison locations has been extended to all facilities, according to a press release.

This suspension began Wednesday and is anticipated to last at least two weeks.

"The decision to suspend visitation is precautionary and was made in the interest of the health and safety of IDOC staff and offenders. Any decision to end or extend the suspension of visitations will be made in the best interest of our staff and the offenders housed at IDOC facilities," stated the release.

While in-person visitations have been suspended, approved friends and family members can still visit remotely by video. Video visits must be scheduled in advance and are limited to 20 minutes.

Before visiting an IDOC facility, friends and family members should visit the Indiana Department of Correction website at https://www.in.gov/idoc/ and search the Find A Facility to locate specific prison facilities.

Once on the facility website, click the 'Visitation' tab for current visitation information and see if visitor restrictions are in place.

Hospital open house originally scheduled for March 26 postponed

Second open house set for May 13 still tentatively scheduled

STAFF REPORT

Parkview Wabash Hospital leaders have decided to postpone the open house event that had been scheduled for Thursday, March 26, at the hospital, according to a press release.

"Out of an abundance of caution, we are postponing the event," stated Marilyn Custer-Mitchell, president of Parkview Wabash. "We want to help community members and our co-workers stay as healthy as possible during a very active flu season, and amid concerns about the spread of the novel coronavirus."

Parkview Wabash Hospital leaders are following guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and choosing not to host events of size for at least the next two months.

A second open house, planned from 5:30 to 7 p.m. May 13 is still tentatively scheduled.

HOLCOMB

From page A1

Friday.

■ Schools should follow the guidelines for non-essential gatherings as they make decisions about non-essential extra-curricular or co-curricular activities.

■ Child care and adult day care facilities should institute social distancing and minimize large gatherings. Temporary suspension of operations should be done in consultation with the Family and Social Services and ISDH in the instance of documented community spread.

Nursing facilities and hospitals should restrict and screen visitors. Any individual who is allowed to visit is restricted to the patient's room. Visitors are not allowed if they present with any of these criteria:

■ Display signs or symptoms of illness, especially respiratory illness.

■ Have traveled internationally or been in contact with someone with a respiratory illness in the past 14 days.

■ Reside in a community with a known COVID-19 case.

■ Those who are less than 18 years of age.

■ The Indiana Department of Correction has suspended visitation at all facilities as a precaution for the health and safety of IDOC staff and offenders.

■ Individuals over 60 years of age or those with a known underlying health issue such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes or chronic respiratory disease should limit their public exposure. Whenever possible, friends and family should arrange to provide food and other essential items.

■ Those who run senior centers and congregate meal services should consider suspending congregate meals services and arrange for home delivery.

■ Encourage businesses to utilize telework policies, if available.

Holcomb is also issuing guidance for state employee operations. The state will suspend all non-essential out-of-state and international travel beginning today and for the next 45 days. The state is also providing employees with guidance about the use of leave and remote work options for limited durations while ensuring the delivery of essential state services. The guidance is attached.

"I fully expect there will be additional actions warranted in the coming days," stated Holcomb. "Just as we have since the beginning of the year, we are working with partners at all levels to secure all necessary resources for any escalation of this virus."

If you are sick with COVID-19 or suspect you are infected with the virus:

■ Stay home unless you need to seek medical care.

■ Avoid public areas and public transportation

■ Stay away from others as much as possible, especially people who are the most at risk such as older adults with multiple medical problems and those with a weakened immune system

■ Don't shake hands

■ Seek prompt medical attention if your illness is worsening such as difficulty breathing and call your doctor or healthcare facility before you seek care.

More information may be found at the ISDH website at https://on.in.gov/COVID19 and the CDC website at https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html.

CHURCHES

From page A1

sick and keeping distance between yourself and other people. Furthermore, we are encouraging people to take steps to protect others, including but not limited to staying home if you are not sick, covering coughs and sneezes, washing or sanitizing hands immediately after, and limiting contact for those who are at high-risk for complications At this time, we are not canceling any church activities, pending further recommendations," they stated.

Like Walk By Faith Community Church, they said they are also encouraging parishioners to not come to church if they are sick.

"Church leadership will continue to follow any new developments and will implement any changes or recommendations that will be necessary for the future. Any such decisions will be communicated with the congregation," they stated. "We continue to care deeply about the health and well-being of our congregation, our community, our state, our nation, and our world. We continue to be in prayer for all of those affected by this developing pandemic."

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

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SEND A LETTER TO THE EDITOR
Email letters to the editor to news@wabashplaindealer.com.

THE ROXY MOVIE THEATER
Roxy 5 Showtimes for Friday, March 13– Thursday, March 19
All showtimes have Closed Captioning available.
I Still Believe (PG)
Fri: 6:30, 9:05
Sat: 1:00, 3:40, 6:30, 9:05
Sun: 1:00, 3:40, 6:30
Mon- Thurs: 6:30
Onward in 2D (PG)
Fri: 6:20, 8:45
Sat: 1:20, 6:20, 8:45
Sun: 1:20, 6:20
Mon- Thurs: 6:20
Onward in RealD 3D (PG)
Sat- Sun: 3:50
The Invisible Man (R)
Fri: 6:50, 9:35
Sat: 1:10, 4:00, 6:50, 9:35
Sun: 1:10, 4:00, 6:50
Mon- Thurs: 6:50
The Call of the Wild (PG)
Fri: 7:00, 9:25
Sat: 1:45, 4:20, 7:00, 9:25
Sun: 1:45, 4:20, 7:00
Mon- Thurs: 7:00
Sonic the Hedgehog (PG)
Fri: 6:40, 8:55
Sat: 1:35, 4:10, 6:40, 8:55
Sun: 1:35, 4.10, 6:40
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5-Day Weather Summary

Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Mostly Sunny	Rain & Snow Possible	Sunny	Mostly Cloudy	Few Showers
46 / 36	40 / 30	42 / 32	47 / 41	50 / 38

Sun and Moon

Today's sunset ..... 7:53 p.m.
Tomorrow's sunrise ..... 8:00 a.m.

Last	New	First	Full
3/16	3/24	4/1	4/7

Detailed Local Outlook

Today we will see mostly sunny skies with a high temperature of 46°, humidity of 49%. West wind 13 to 17 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies tonight with an overnight low of 36°. South southwest wind 5 to 14 mph. The wind chill for tonight could reach 32°.

Limited mobility shouldn't stop people from adopting pets

Elizabeth Ko & Eve Glazier
Ask the Doctors



Hello, dear readers, and welcome back to our monthly letters column. We're happy to report that you've kept our mailboxes full, so we'll dive right in.

■ Pet-related topics always get a lot of mail, and a recent column about a study into the health benefits of living with a dog was no different. A reader from Tulsa, Oklahoma, wrote to say that limited mobility need not be a barrier to canine companionship. "People who are physically unable to walk a dog outdoors can experience the joy provided by a pet and the other benefits of pet ownership, particularly with a small breed," she wrote. "They can be trained to use potty pads indoors. We recently adopted a 3-year-old rescue Chihuahua who quickly learned to use the potty pads. As I write this, my current 'favorite child' is right here beside me. Life is just better with a pet in your lap."

■ A reader from Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, who volunteers at a local hospital with her therapy dog, wrote to say she sees the happiness that a dog imparts with every visit. "It's refreshing to read about how dogs make a difference in the healing process. I witness that emotion every time we visit," she wrote. "And, as you pointed out, the nurses, doctors and support staff all love interacting with the dogs as well."

■ In response to a column about carpal tunnel syndrome, a reader from Fresno, California, found that a small tweak to his work habits made a big difference to the severe carpal tunnel pain he experienced while using a mouse during computer work. "I went to several doctors, but ultimately decided to just move the mouse to the left side of the keyboard," he wrote. "It was awkward for about a week, but eventually I adapted, and after two months, the pain was gone." Since then, he switches hands on the first day of each month and reports, "my carpal tunnel pain has never returned."

■ A column about the flu that mentioned that symptoms can be similar to those of a bad cold left a reader in Spokane, Washington, confused. "All my life – 62 years – the flu has been referred to as an illness with symptoms such as fever, stomach upset or vomiting, lack of appetite, diarrhea and achiness, and it seems to take longer to get well from than a cold," he wrote. "Have I been confused about what flu really is?" To clarify, the flu is an infection of the influenza virus. It typically shares respiratory symptoms with the common cold, and can cause the additional symptoms that you mention. The diagnostic difference between the flu and a cold is the virus that causes each infection. And, as you mention, the flu lasts longer than a cold and tends to be more severe.

That's it for this month. Thank you again for all of your questions, tips, comments and kind words. We love hearing from you. And just a reminder to new readers – we can't make a diagnosis, recommend medications or offer a second opinion.

Eve Glazier, M.D., MBA, is an internist and associate professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Elizabeth Ko, M.D., is an internist and assistant professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Send your questions to askthedoctors@mednet.ucla.edu, or write: Ask the Doctors, c/o UCLA Health Sciences Media Relations, 10880 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1450, Los Angeles, CA, 90024. Owing to the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.

READERS' CHOICE REPORTS

WEDNESDAY'S LOTTERIES

Cash 5
05-10-11-19-43
Estimated jackpot: $155,500
Cash4Life
08-25-35-54-58, Cash Ball: 2
Lotto Plus
05-25-27-39-43-45
Daily Three-Midday
5-9-3, SB:
Daily Three-Evening
8-0-6, SB: 8
Daily Four-Midday
0-4-9-7, SB:
Daily Four-Evening
9-9-1-0, SB: 8
Hoosier Lotto
11-14-16-20-38-41
Estimated jackpot: $1.5 million
Mega Millions
Estimated jackpot: $80 million
Powerball
04-29-49-50-67, Powerball: 2, Power Play: 4
Estimated jackpot: $110 million

THURSDAY'S METALS

Aluminum	.77
Copper	2.54
Lead	.84
Zinc	.91
Gold	1,614.78
Silver	16.15
Platinum	819.73

AREA GRAIN

Estimated grain prices Thursday at Indianapolis-area elevators: Corn: $3.88. Soybeans: $8.52.

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■ **Email:** news@wabashplaindealer.com

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Obituaries

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Lucas A. Cruz, Jr

Jan. 18, 1957 – Mar. 10, 2020



Lucas A. Cruz, Jr., 63, of LaFontaine, passed away at 11:50 p.m. on Tuesday, March 10, 2020 at his home. He was born on January 18, 1957, in Wabash, to Lucas T. & Gloria (Acevedo) Cruz, Sr.

Lucas was a 1975 graduate of Southwood High School. He retired from Duke Energy after 40 years of work. Lucas enjoyed participating in the local pool league and riding his motorcycle. He was an avid mushroom hunter and loved hanging out around his firepit.

He is survived by his father and stepmother, Lucas T. & Rose Marie Cruz, Sr., of Moore, Oklahoma and two daughters, Kandi (Jim) Cruz-Hanson, of Indianapolis and Rachel (Ryan) Olsen, of Marion. He was preceded in death by his mother, Gloria.

Private funeral services for family will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 15, 2020 at McDonald Funeral Home, LaFontaine Chapel, 104 South Main Street, LaFontaine, Indiana 46940. Reverend Gabriel Cruz will be the officiant.

Visitation for family and friends will be from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m., on Saturday, March 14, 2020, at the funeral home.

Preferred memorials are to ABATE of Wabash or to the APA Pool League.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.mcdonaldfunerals.com

Patricia Ann Sloane

Dec. 19, 1937 – Mar. 11, 2020

Patricia Ann Sloane, 82, of Wabash, Indiana, died at 2:35 p.m., Wednesday, Mar. 11, 2020 at her home. She was born Dec. 19, 1937 in Huntington, West Virginia, to Paul Brown and Louise (Bockway) Haupert.

Pat married Kelly J. Sloane in Kentucky on Nov. 25, 1953; he died Nov. 17, 2013. She worked as a nursing aide 14 years in the obstetrics department of Wabash County Hospital. Mrs. Sloane was affiliated with the Free Will Baptist Church. She enjoyed fishing, gardening, and spending time at Salamonie Reservoir.

She is survived by her son, Steven (Mary) Sloane of Akron, Indiana, four grandchildren, Casey (Tracy) Sloane and Kelli Sloane, both of Louisville, Kentucky, Keri (Dave) Pulley of Cheyenne, Wyoming, and Mike Coe of Akron, and four great grandchildren. She was also preceded in death by her son, Gary J. Sloane.

Private graveside services and burial will be in Memorial Lawns Cemetery, Wabash. Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service of Wabash is handling arrangements.

Preferred memorial is Parkview Wabash Home Health Care and Hospice.

The memorial guest book for Patricia may be signed at www.grandstaff-hentgen.com.

Indiana schools being allowed 20-day break to stem virus

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Indiana schools will be allowed to close for up to 20 days this school year without penalties, the governor's office announced Thursday among steps toward helping stem the coronavirus spread.

Gov. Eric Holcomb is also discouraging non-essential gatherings of more than 250 people in sites such as churches, stadiums, conference rooms and auditoriums. The announcement came as the NCAA and the Big Ten called off basketball tournament games scheduled for Indianapolis and a worker at Fiat Chrysler's transmission factory in Kokomo tested positive for the coronavirus.

The state's health department also reported another confirmed COVID-19 illness, giving Indiana 12 cases out of 64 people tested.

More than a dozen colleges across the state – including Indiana, Purdue and Ivy Tech – are taking steps such as extending spring breaks and temporarily canceling classroom instruction.

Nearly all of Indiana's K-12 schools have remained open, but Indianapolis Mayor Joe Hogsett said Thursday that all Marion County public and charter schools will close for three weeks beginning Monday. They will reopen April 6.

The governor's office said schools should be planning for broader closures, including moving classes online and remote classroom options. School districts can seek a 20-day waiver of the state's required 180 instructional days for the rest of the current school year.

"I fully expect there will be additional actions warranted in the coming days," Holcomb said in a statement. "Just as we have since the beginning of the year, we are working with partners at all levels to secure all necessary resources for any escalation of this virus."

Fiat Chrysler said the Kokomo factory was still operating Thursday. The sick employee's work area was disinfected and co-workers who came in direct contact with him were quarantined at home. It's the first known case of coronavirus in a U.S. auto factory.

Also Thursday, the Indiana High School Athletic Association announced boys basketball regional games on Saturday will be played before limited audiences, with each team allowed no more than 75 admissions.

The loss of the Big Ten and NCAA tournament games in Indianapolis will hit the city hard. The NCAA games were expected to draw some 42,000 people to the city and generate about $20 million in revenue for local businesses, according to the tourism group Visit Indy.

Tougher Indiana law on under-18 marriages wins approval

By TOM DAVIES
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Anyone younger than 18 will need a judge's permission in order to get married in Indiana under a law change approved by state legislators.

The proposal endorsed almost unanimously by lawmakers late Wednesday would repeal the state's current law that allows those as young as 15 to marry if they have parental consent. The new law would only allow 16- or 17-year-olds to marry someone no more than four years older after obtaining approval from a juvenile court judge.

Legislators heard during a committee meeting from women who were 15 or 16 when their parents forced them to marry men who had raped or molested them and then faced more abuse before being able to escape the relationship.

Current law doesn't place any age limit on the older spouse, and Rep. Karen Engleman, the proposal's sponsor, said her goal was to make sure both people in a marriage are on equal footing.

"It will help minor children to not get into these violent situations," said Engleman, a Republican from Georgetown.

Engleman cited concerns that girls who marry before 18 have greater risk of sexual and domestic violence, along with higher poverty and high school dropout rates.

The bill, which now goes to Gov. Eric Holcomb for consideration, also would require judges to interview each person in private to ensure their decisions are voluntary and that they are mature enough before giving marriage permission. It also states that a pregnancy or having a child isn't by itself sufficient to grant marriage permission.

The proposal to change the marriage age law re-emerged in the final days of this year's legislative session, which ended early Thursday, after it was sidetracked in January by a potential fight over whether to an amendment repealing Indiana's obsolete ban on same-sex marriages.

Rep. John Bartlett, an Indianapolis Democrat, said he believed the law change would protect girls from marriages to much older men.

"Often those childhood marriages are for human trafficking," he said.

PULSE

From page A1

registration or questions.

Laketon American Legion Auxiliary Unit 402 plans dinner

The Laketon American Legion Auxiliary Unit 402 has planned a dinner from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Friday, March 13 at the Bluebird Cafe, 15 N. Main St., Laketon. The menu will include a choice of fish, shrimp, beef and noodles, meatloaf, potatoes, salad and drink. The cost is $8. Pie is $2. Carry-outs will be available.

Komets game to celebrate Wabash County March 13

Wabash County will be the MVP during the third annual Wabash County Night at the Fort Wayne Komets game at 8:05 p.m. Friday, March 13 at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, 4000 Parnell Ave., Fort Wayne. While supplies last, tickets can be bought for $15 per ticket at https://groupmatics.events/event/Wabash community3 or by emailing Mitch Meinholz at mitch@komets.com or by calling 260-482-6812.

'Can we talk?' event planned for March 14

The show "Can we talk?" is scheduled for 7 p.m. Saturday, March 14 at Manchester Church of the Brethren, 1306 Beckley St., North Manchester. The event is free to the public. A freewill donation will go toward Heifer International. For more information about the event, call 260-982-7523 or visit www.manchestercob.net.

Intermediate two-day stained-glass scheduled

A two-day intermediate class instructed by local stained-glass artist Katy Gray will be held from 1 to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, March 14 and Sunday, March 15 at Salamonie Interpretive and Nature Center, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. All participants of this class must have had recent, prior stained glass cutting and smoothing experience. The cost is $40. The project will be a bee on a coneflower. Call 260-468-2127 for registration or questions.

St. Trolley's Day Tour on sale

Visit Wabash County has announced that tickets for the St. Trolley's Day Tour happening on March 14 are available for purchase. Tour times offered are 6, 6:30 or 7 p.m. and will last about two hours. The St. Trolley's Day Tour is $25 per person and all-inclusive. To register for this tour, visit www.VisitWabashCounty.com and click on Tours/Trolley Rental. You may also stop in the Welcome Center at 221 S. Miami St., or call 260-563-7171. Tickets are $25 per person and is due upon registration. You must be 21 or older to participate in this tour.

Wabash Kiwanis Club's Pancake Day returns in March

The Wabash Kiwanis Club will host its annual Pancake Day fundraiser, the service organization's biggest annual fundraiser, from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, March 14, at the Bob Elrod Exhibit Hall, located just off of Gillen Avenue at the Wabash County 4-H Fairgrounds. The event's Pancake Eating Contest will return and will start at noon. Tickets are $7 in advance and $8 at the door for adults (13 and older) and $4 in advance and $5 at the door for children ages 6-12. Children 5 and younger eat for free. Tickets are available from Wabash Kiwanis members. Those who have questions can contact Mike Keaffaber at keaffaberm@msdwc.k12.in.us.

Wabash County Genealogical Society to meet

The speaker for the next meeting of the Wabash County Genealogical Society will be Allison Singleton from the Allen County Library's Genealogy Center. The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. Monday, March 16 at The Woman's Clubhouse, 770 W. Hill St. The topic of the presentation will be "Out of the Box Questions and the Methodology of Answering Them." Meetings are always open to the public.

Beacon Credit Union to hold 89th Annual Shareholders Meeting

The 89th Annual Shareholders Meeting of Beacon Credit Union will be held at 7 p.m. Monday, March 16, in the Honeywell Center's Ford Theater, according to a press release. Doors will open for registration at 6 p.m. Those in attendance will receive a door prize and be registered for a prize drawing to be held at the end of the business meeting. This is an event for the entire family to attend. Roller-skating will be available in the Honeywell Center's Roller Skating Rink for children. For those children who are too young to skate, a childcare room will be available as well. Both will be staffed by Beacon Credit Union personnel and will be free to all credit union members.

Lt. Col. Kuester to speak at MSD's 31st annual Academic Honors Banquet

Lt. Col. Christopher M. Kuester, a 1992 Southwood High School graduate, will address the academic honorees of MSD of Wabash County during the annual Academic Honors Banquet at 7:15 p.m. Tuesday, March 17 at the Honeywell Center in Legacy Hall.

Adult mental Health First Aid training planned

Purdue Extension will offer Adult Mental Health First Aid training from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 17 at the Wabash REMC Community Room, 350 Wedcor Ave. The Mental Health First Aid program is open to any adult. For more information, visit www.extension.purdue.edu/mhfa or contact Mindy Mayes by email at mayes7@purdue.edu or by phone at 260-663-0661 ext. 1408.

Farmers market season set to begin

Applications are open to potential vendors. Vendors are accepted for a full season, half-season and one-time rates. An informational call-out meeting will occur at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 18 inside Chapman's Taproom, 233 S. Miami St. Downtown Wabash Farmers Market opens from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 16 in the Honeywell Center/Wabash Elk's Parking Lot. The market occurs every Saturday through Sept. 26. If you are interested in becoming a vendor or volunteering at the event, call 260-563-0975 or visit www.wabashmarketplace.org.

Rotary Club of North Manchester cancels its March 19 meeting

The Rotary Club of North Manchester has canceled its Thursday, March 19 meeting. The group will continue to monitor the COVID-19 situation and hopes to meet as scheduled on March 26 at the North Manchester Center for History, 122 E. Main St., North Manchester.

NMCH to host Smithsonian traveling exhibit

The North Manchester Center for History will be hosting the Smithsonian's traveling exhibit, "Crossroads: Change in Rural America" from March 21 to May 3.

Tour and visit St. Bernard Elementary School during March

Tour and visit St. Bernard Elementary School from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. any Monday or Wednesday during March at 191 N. Cass St. The school is enrolling grades pre-kindergarten through sixth grades. For more information call Pam Dyer at 260-563-5746.

Manchester invites high school students to submit compositions

The Manchester University Department of Music seeks high school composers for its first Composition Workshop and Reading Session on Wednesday, April 8. They are invited to submit original compositions to be performed and recorded by Manchester University faculty musicians. The deadline is March 23. Send submissions to Reed at tmreed@manchester.edu. Submissions should include a score (PDF or Finale file); contact information with name, phone number and mailing address; and name of high school currently attending. There is no fee to submit. Selected composers will be contacted with details about the evening event via email.

Celebrate Ivy Tech in Wabash at Monopoly Night

Ivy Tech Community College is hosting its 11th annual Wabash Monopoly Night from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Friday, April 24 in the Parkview Health Ballroom of Eagles Theatre, 106 W. Market St. This event is open to the community. Guests must RSVP by April 15 to Laura Leichty by email at lleichty@ivytech.edu or by phone 260-481-2243.

Comedian Michael Palascak to perform at Lagro benefit event

"Dia de Lagro" will take place Tuesday, May 5 at the Eads Barn, 4725 E. 200 North, Urbana. Appetizers, cocktails, singer Kimberly Rutledge and Emcee Reed Christiansen are set to begin at 5:30 p.m. A Mexican-themed dinner, catered by Gallery 64, will begin at 6 p.m. with comedian Michael Palascak taking the stage at 7 p.m. Tickets for the event are $75 each, $125 per couple or $500 for a table of eight. For more information, visit lagrocanalfoundation.com. Those interested in donating prizes for the silent auction or would like to become a main sponsor may email lagro canalfoundation@gmail.com.

Manchester University to honor Steve Ford at 2020 Commencement

Manchester University will honor Steve Ford, president and chief executive officer of the Ford Meter Box, on Saturday, May 16, at both the morning and afternoon commencement exercises.

WCPL plans summer reading, 'Bash Con

'Bash Con is set to last from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, June 26 at 188 W. Hill St. 'Bash Con's theme for this year is "Imagine Your Story" and free booth space is available for artists and vendors. Amateur artists are encouraged and welcomed. To register, visit https://www.wabash.lib.in.us/bash-con. For more information, call 260-563-2972.

Editor's note: If you have an upcoming event to submit, please send it by email to news@wabashplaindealer.com no later than five days before the event itself. Please use complete sentences, Associated Press style and Microsoft Word or PDF file formats.

Opinion

SPEAK UP

How to contact your legislators:

U.S. Sen. Todd Young, R-Ind.
B33 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
1-202-224-5623
http://young.senate.gov/contact

U.S. Sen. Mike Braun, R-Ind.
B85 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-4814
http://braun.senate.gov/

U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski, R-District 2
419 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
202-225-3915

State Sen. Andy Zay, R-District 17
Indiana Senate
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
1-800-382-9467
Senator.Zay@iga.in.gov

State Rep. David Wolkins, R-District 18
Indiana House
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
1-800-382-9841
h18@in.gov

To email any Indiana lawmaker, go to this website:
www.in.gov/cgi-bin/legislative/contact/contact.pl

LETTERS GUIDELINES

The Wabash Plain Dealer encourages your letters to the editor forum, which is designed to be a forum for exchange of ideas between readers about issues of community importance.

Please sign your letter. Your name will be used with the letter that is published in the Plain Dealer. Your letter will be returned if it is your desire to remain anonymous.

Since we may want to write or call you to verify the letter, we ask that you include your address and telephone number. All our letters to the editor are published in the interest of fair play, so we trust our letter writers will refrain from personal attacks on other persons or groups.

A letter should be less than two pages long, preferably of double-spaced typing.

In order to give everyone an opportunity to participate in this exchange of ideas, please try to limit your letters to one per month per household.

To submit a letter, please write the Wabash Plain Dealer at 99 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Letters also may be hand-delivered to the newspaper office, 99 W. Canal St. The office is open 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you should deliver a letter during non-business hours, a drop slot is located to the left of the front door. Letters may be faxed to 260-563-0816, or email them to news@wabashplaindealer.com with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.

DAILY SCRIPTURE

"For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are, yet he did not sin."

Hebrews 4:15

Quick, necessary action to slow coronavirus spread

Toss the concert tickets and pick up the earbuds. Gather in fellowship at bible study rather than in the sprawling Sunday church service.

In the age of coronavirus, these are the disappointing but wholly reasonable and responsible realities under Gov. Jay Inslee's Wednesday order for King, Pierce and Snohomish counties.

On the day the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic, the governor announced he was prohibiting gatherings of more than 250 people in King, Snohomish and Pierce counties. Standing with him at the announcement and beside him in the public-health battle against the novel coronavirus were elected executives of those counties and the mayors of Seattle, Tacoma and Everett.

King County Executive Dow Constantine announced further social distancing and sanitation requirements on smaller public gatherings, though they are not banned.

The goal is to slow the transmission of the virus and limit the number of COVID-19 cases to buy time for the health infrastructure, such as testing, to catch up and to limit inundation of hospitals with ballooning cases. Members of the public should voluntarily comply with the new guidelines while continuing to take responsibility for their health and the health of those around them. We all should follow the social distancing guidelines.

Don't panic. The escalation is a necessary step to meet the evolving nature of this public-health threat. Constantine said that businesses, such as restaurants and movie theaters, could continue to operate as long as they demonstrate they can follow the guidelines.

As the U.S. epicenter of the epidemic, Washington's experience has exposed weaknesses in the country's health-care system and emergency preparedness. Most troubling is The New York Times' Monday story about federal and state public-health officials' delayed response to Seattle Flu Study researchers' request to retroactively test samples collected back in January. Public-health officials could have known much sooner that the virus was spreading.

Our public-health system is showing signs of stress, including still scarce tests, uneven access to primary medical care, and potential shortages of equipment, beds and health workers.

We have also seen local officials go to court over quarantine facility siting. Looming on the horizon are likely exacerbation of economic inequality.

Officials have identified 268 presumptive cases of COVID-19 and 29 related deaths in Washington and estimate as many as 1,000 are as yet undiagnosed. Without these proven, effective public-health interventions, the general community's infection rate is expected to double within a week and grow exponentially thereafter.

While most people who contract the virus will experience mild symptoms, older people, pregnant women and those with underlying medical conditions carry significant risk of serious illness. They all need our protection.

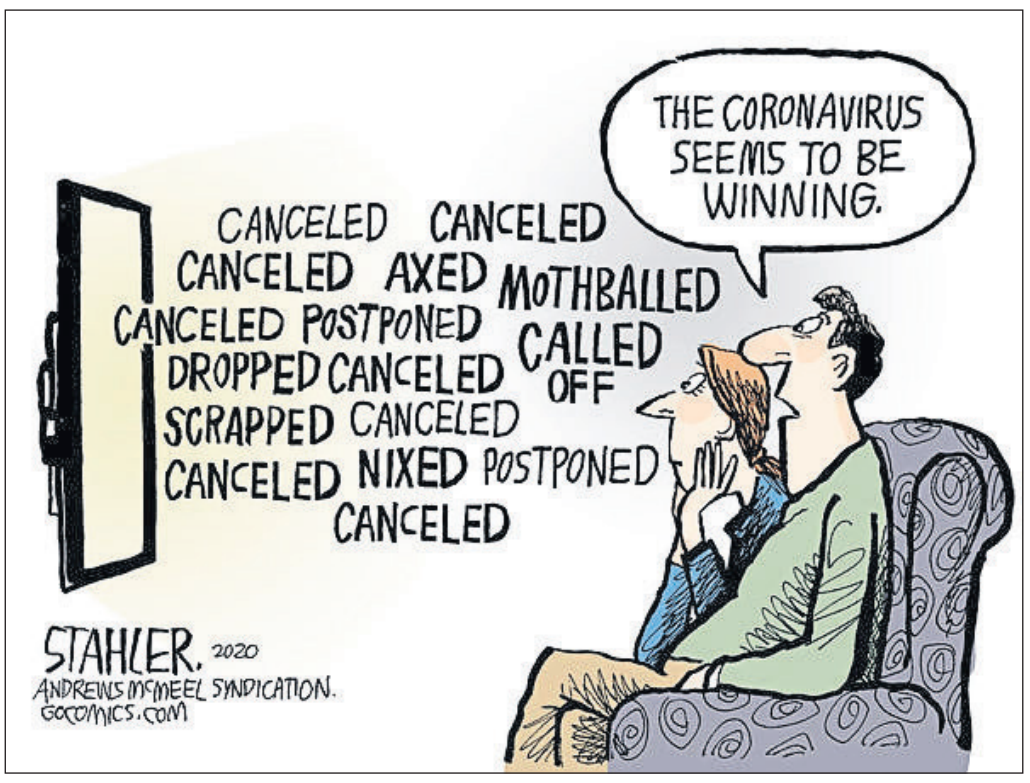
On Wednesday, Inslee also called on school districts to prepare contingency plans if the schools need to close, including child care for essential public-health workers and nutrition programs for students who rely on schools for meals.

Joining the North Shore, Lake Washington and Bellevue districts, the Seattle Public School District announced Wednesday it would be closing schools for at least two weeks.

As the situation evolves, elected leaders and public-health officials must continue to be thoughtful, carefully weighing benefits and potential costs while respecting civil liberties.

Transparency, particularly in use of extraordinary powers, cannot be sacrificed even in this crucial moment.

This editorial was first published in The Seattle Times.



LETTERS

Don't shake hands: Bow for health

Citizens of the world stand in fear waiting to see how far and how wide the Coronavirus will spread, and whether or not it will reach pandemic levels of infection. I believe that we could vastly improve the health of our citizenry and the citizenry of the world while saving billions of dollars in costs associated with new viruses, colds, flu, and other illnesses if we, as Americans, would adopt the practice of bowing when greeting one another rather than shaking hands.

Millions of people at any given time are infected with various viruses – the symptoms of which are often concealed by the use of the vast array of medications available which allow sick people to continue working rather than staying home in bed where they are less likely to infect others.

This fact was brought home to me recently when, after working in the cold and rain for several hours, I came down with bronchitis-like symptoms. I should have stayed in bed for a couple of days to avoid contact with the outside world, but an extremely heavy work-load forced me to medicate myself to the point that I could continue working.

I made a point of staying away from my aged parents' home during the time that I might have been infectious, and further, made a point of standing back from people when visiting with them. A few days later, even though I was feeling much better and felt that I would no longer infect others, I made a point of sitting at least two seats away from my family and guests at supper.

The biggest problem that I faced was in avoiding shaking hands with friends, new acquaintances, and business associates during the period that I felt that I was somewhat of a danger to society's health. When I would be approached with an outstretched hand, I would stand back a step and bow with my hands behind my back, or bow with my palms touching with my hands against my heart as do the Hindus with the traditional greeting of "namaste."

At first, several of the people I encountered felt a certain degree of offense that I refused to shake hands with them, for, in this country, refusal to shake hands is a sign of disrespect up to and including malice and even hatred.

Some friends even tried to insist that I shake hands with them, despite my attempts at explaining why I preferred to bow, especially while as a potential disease carrier. I would say, "It is because I love you and care for you that I prefer to bow, not because I am mad at you or don't like you."

If that explanation seemed to fail, I would continue with, "If you were my adversary, I would not only shake your hand with great gusto but would kiss you on the lips as well." That further explanation would always do the trick.

After each explanation, the friends or associates would accept my polite bow and bow in return. They would even express gratitude when I explained how human hands are significant disease carriers due to natural, unconscious human mannerisms, such as sneezing against the back of one's hand, coughing into the palm of your hand, or rubbing itching or watery eyes and nose.

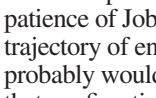
I believe that if enough prominent Americans, including celebrities and politicians, would begin to politely bow in public and when in front of the media rather than shake hands, that many, if not the vast majority of, Americans, and hopefully the rest of the world, would abandon the unhealthy practice in favor of the polite "bow for health."

George H. Russell is an outspoken opponent of the death penalty and a resident of Huntsville, Texas.

Sensible Americans might be saved from dismay in November

'Enlightened statesmen," wrote James Madison, "will not always be at the helm." His genius extended to understatement, and until Tuesday it was approaching probable that by midnight of November's first Tuesday, sensible Americans would be elated and distraught – elated because someone grotesquely unsuited to the presidency would have been denied that office, but distraught because such a person had won it.

George Will



Together, Bernie Sanders and Donald Trump would constitute the most repulsive presidential choice in U.S history. The Democratic Party, however, is not the world's oldest party because it fecklessly allows its presidential nomination to be grasped by someone who – let us plainly state the most important fact about Sanders – dislikes this nation.

Joe Biden has little to say that is remarkable and he says it in a remarkably meandering manner, but grant his request: Don't compare him with the Almighty, compare him with the alternative. Florid Bernie Sanders, with his relentless, arm-waving, high-decibel depiction of America's history and present as a sordid story of injustices, resembles the woman in the Anthony Trollope novel who scolded "frightfully, loudly, scornfully, and worse than all, continually." Having called this country a "hellhole," Donald Trump's first presidential words lamented "American carnage."

Michelangelo could see a statue in a stone. Sanders and Trump, those temperamental twins, see failure in a republic that multitudes risk death to reach. Whether Biden or Trump is inaugurated next Jan. 20 depends on whether or not Democratic primary voters complete the task of using warm patriotism and cold arithmetic to extinguish Sanders' fantasies.

Oliver Wendell Holmes, who noted Theodore Roosevelt's "strenuous vagueness," would have marveled at Sanders' pixie-dust calculations. Trump's congressional accomplices will solemnly lecture that Sanders portends fiscal recklessness, but a nation snoozing through trillion-dollar deficits might shrug about Sanders' indifference to multi-trillion-dollar details about his agenda. "Yeah, but I won't be here," was Trump's response when someone possessing the patience of Job explained to him the unsustainable trajectory of entitlement programs. Sanders' response probably would be similarly breezy were he informed that confiscating every dime of every billionaire would not come close to paying for his Tinkertoy approach to government: Pull apart and reassemble entire sectors of society (e.g., health care's one-sixth of the economy). Gulliver in his travels met someone like Sanders working on "a project for extracting sunbeams out of cucumbers."

If Sanders is not nominated, his seething core supporters, for whom indignation is as delicious as bacon (or the vegan equivalent), will not use their indoor voices or play nicely with a nominee who won fewer delegates than Sanders won before the convention. Sanders, who is nonjudgmental about Cuba's "different value system," has said – stay tuned – it is a high moral imperative that the convention jettison the rule that the nominee must have a majority, not a plurality, of delegates. A second convention ballot would create a second convention by infusing 771 superdelegates – elected officials and other party leaders – into the process. Excluding them from this year's first ballot advanced the century-old progressive goal of reducing conventions to ratifying rather than deliberative bodies.

The convention will act on something made obvious by Sanders' most telling shellackings Tuesday, in the swing states Virginia and North Carolina: With Sanders atop every ticket, down-ballot carnage probably would engulf many state legislature candidates in this census year – before 2022, some state legislatures will redraw congressional districts – which would enable Republican-controlled legislatures to disadvantage Democratic congressional candidates for a decade.

After Tom Steyer spent about $400 for each of his 61,048 South Carolina votes, Michael Bloomberg's approximately $500 million bought this pearl beyond price: the affection of American Samoa.

These redundant refutations of the theory that money can make vanity candidacies viable should calm those campaign "reformers" whose superstition is that the power of political money is such that government should regulate it (and by doing so stipulate the permissible quantity of political speech it can finance).

Sanders' prodigious fundraising can keep him campaigning but cannot fend off the failure that certainly awaits him now that Bloomberg, by his withdrawal, has underscored Democrats' determination to let nothing interfere with defeating Trump. So, the country soon can turn to considering this:

Biden has twice experienced an agony that has become relatively rare but until recently in the human story was commonplace, that of a parent burying a child. This might be related to his approach to politics as an arena of transactions, not of ever-impending tragedies. Such emotional maturity is a prerequisite for restoring national equilibrium.

George Will's email address is georgewill@washpost.com.

HISTORY

Today is Friday, March 13, the 73rd day of 2020. There are 293 days left in the year.

Highlight in history:

On March 13, 2013, Jorge Bergoglio of Argentina was elected pope, choosing the name Francis; he was the first pontiff from the Americas and the first from outside Europe in more than a millennium.

Today's Birthdays: Jazz musician Roy Haynes is 95. Country singer Jan Howard is 90. Songwriter Mike Stoller is 87. Singer-songwriter Neil Sedaka is 81. R&B/gospel singer Candi Staton is 80. Opera singer Julia Migenes is 71. Actor William H. Macy is 70. Comedian Robin Duke is 66. Actress Dana Delany is 64. Sen. John Hoeven, R-N.D., is 63.

Worship

Believing for the sake of belief isn't in Jesus' teachings

By BRANDON EATON

We all know what the word belief means. In our everyday lives, when we believe something, it's because we've been convinced. We have seen or heard evidence of some sort that made us decide to believe. We will also take it to heart if someone we trust gives us the information. If that person is reliable then we will be willing to believe the information they give.

When your grade school teacher taught you that 8 times 8 equals 64, most of you probably didn't call a time out and line up eight sets of eight pencils to check her math. You trusted that she knew what she was talking about. That's really all there is to it. You believe because you've been convinced by the evidence, or you trust the person giving the information. Yet when you drop the word "believe" into a religious context, especially when it comes to Christianity, it takes on a meaning it never really had. We somehow divorce it from reason or logic, and make it something more akin to hope.

Hope is a good thing. We hope for things all the time. I hope the weather warms up and Spring starts tomorrow. I don't necessarily have any reason why I would believe this would happen, but I can hope for it. That's sometimes how we treat belief as Christians. When honest people have doubts or questions we sometimes respond with, " Well, you just have to believe."

We tell people to just take it by faith or to have stronger faith. Is this how your belief in Christ was formed? Were you young enough to just take it by faith that everything your parent, pastor, or Sunday school teacher said was true? You were told to just believe, and so you did.

The problem is that this kind of belief is easy to shatter. We see it all the time. You watched a debate, or read a book, or sat in a college lecture. Your beliefs were challenged, and you were only believing them in the first place because you were told you had to. You change your mind, and it happens all too easily. A man named Frank Turk, who debates people regarding the existence of Jesus had this to say, "The reason so many people are easily talked out of Christianity is that they were never talked into it in the first place."

Believing for the sake of belief isn't in Jesus' teachings. You won't really find it in the New Testament. You see there is a reason we have the writings of people like Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. We have first-hand eyewitnesses to Jesus and his life here on earth. When we look at his disciples, we don't see people who believed just because they were told to. Jesus never asked John just to believe because he said so. In fact, we watch the disciples take this journey where they don't believe, then they believe, then they have some doubts, then they believe again, but then they're not so sure. You see, these were men that were hard to convince. Yet, by the end they were. They were so convinced that everything about them changed. They went from hiding away, scared for their lives, to boldly proclaiming the name of Jesus without fear of pain, imprisonment, or death. They were convinced. They believed, and

because of that belief, something happened. They were given life.

This was something they wanted to pass on. They didn't just want to document events so there would be a record of their lives. They wanted to build a case to convince you, just as they were convinced. John sets up his gospel to look at seven major signs that Jesus performed. He calls these signs, not miracles. He does so because the acts themselves were not just done because Jesus was being nice. It's easy to get distracted by a miracle, especially when you really need one. Signs though, they point to something or someone. That's the whole reason for a sign. These signs that John records point to the identity of Christ. At the end of his book, he tells us that Jesus did a bunch of other stuff, and said a bunch of other things. He tells us he wrote down the ones he did so that we could believe.

John didn't buy believing blindly. He was convinced by the evidence, and he hopes that through his account you would be convinced by the evidence too. Do you know what you believe? Do you know why so many of us are convinced that Jesus Christ is the son of God and that he came to save us? For the next seven weeks at Wabash Friends Church we will be looking at the seven signs that John points out. He tells us about each one and then concludes that this is how he knows that Jesus was who he said he was. If you want to know what convinced him to come spend some time with us. For all of you that were told when it came to Jesus you just had to believe, I have some good news for you. There is so much more to it than that.

Brandon Eaton is lead pastor of Wabash Friends Church.

CHURCH NEWS

Asbury Country Church

On Sunday, March 15, at Asbury Country Church, the Sunday school is at 9:30 a.m., and the worship service is at 10:30 a.m. The worship leader will be Alan Siepker, the music leader will be Roger Marine, and the piano will be by Cathy Staggs. The morning message will be, "Where Is Our Focus in Life?" by Mike Bullick, pastor.

Christ United Methodist Church

On Sunday, March 15 worship service at Christ United Methodist Church, 477 N. Wabash St., is at 10 a.m. Pastor Chris Tiedeman's sermon is from Psalm 95 titled, "Do Not Let Your Heart Be Hardened." Check us out at wabashchristumc.org or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ChristUMCWabash/.

Dora Christian Church

At the Sunday, March 15 worship services at Dora Christian Church, 2325 S. Salamonie Dam Road, Lagro, the minister will be Mark Wisniewski, the song leader will be Olman Sanchez, the pianist will be Sherry Brock and the organist will be Kristy Good. The message for the 8:15 a.m. service will be "Why Me?" from Genesis, Chapter 12. At the 10:30 a.m. service, John Campbell will be bringing a Missions update from Haiti and Mexico. The Communion Table will be served by Bill Miller and Chuck Marion. Children's church at the 10:30 a.m. service will be led by Kelly and Lynnette Good.

First United Methodist Church

On Sunday, March 15, the Third Sunday in Lent, at First United Methodist Church, 110 Cass St., worship services will be at 8 and 10 a.m., with a coffee hour following the 10 a.m. service in the MAC. At the 8 a.m. service, the prelude and postlude will be by Kathy Geible, and the opening prayer and scripture reading will be by Pastor Nathan Whybrew. At both the 8 and 10 a.m. services, the sermon series will be, "I Am," the scripture will be John 10:1-10, the children's message will be by Jon Higgins and the sermon by Pastor Nathan Whybrew will be "The Door." At the 10 a.m. service, the prelude will be by Bettie Miller, the opening prayer and scripture reading will be by David Van Camp, music will be by the Chancel Choir and the postlude will be by Susan Vanlandingham. Visit us at wabashfirstumc.org or on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/wabashfirstumc/.

Wabash Church of the Brethren

Please join us at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, March 15 at Wabash Church of the Brethren, 645 Bond St., to worship together. This week, Pastor Doug Veal continues his Sermon on the Mount series with "Jesus, A Woman, and Living Water" based on John 4:4-42. Children's church and nursery are available during worship times. Church and sanctuary are handicapped accessible. Sunday school begins at 9:30 a.m. Our Bible Study over the book of Philippians meets at 10 a.m. Tuesdays.

Wabash First Church of God

In the 10:30 a.m. Sunday, March 15 worship service, Pastor Robb Rensberger's sermon is titled, "The Names of God: Yahweh Rophe (The LORDWho Heals)." Sunday servants are Sue White, chairperson; Sherry Whitt, worship; Ladies Group, special music; Nancy Kolb, piano; and Rose Sands, organ.

Walk by Faith Community Church

At the Sunday, March 15 services at the Walk by Faith Community Church in Roann, Sunday school will be at 9 a.m., and the worship and children's worship will be at 10 a.m. The pastor is Greg Wilburn. The youth pastor is Jody Tyner. Our greeters for this Sunday will be Rick and Kamela Duff, and Greg and Cathy Montel. Dave Philips will be sharing the message with us. We invite all to come and worship with us. Visit our website at www.walkbyfaithcommunitychurch.com.

Editor's note: Have an upcoming event to submit? Send it by email to news@wabashplaindealer.com no later than five days before the event itself. Please use complete sentences, Associated Press style and Microsoft Word or PDF file formats.

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Church Directory

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Gospel Light Assembly of God, 347 Southwood Drive. Pastor Neil Jeffrey. Sunday School 9:45am (all ages). Morning worship service 10:30am. Evening service 6pm. Wednesday midweek service 7pm; Kids' Korral Wednesday 7pm. Youth meeting 7pm (ages 12-19).

Sweetwater Assembly of God, 2551 SR 114 E, North Manchester. (260) 982-6179. Sunday worship 9am & 10:45am. Sunday evening outreach groups & youth ministry 5-7pm. Wednesday 6:30pm adult/teen bible study, 6:30pm Kidz Zone (K thru 6th grade).

BAPTIST

Emmanuel Free Will Baptist, 129 Southwood Drive. Pastor Terry Hinds. (260) 563-3009. Sunday School 9:30am. Sunday Worship 10:30am & 6pm; Children's Church 10:30am. Wednesday morning prayer service 11am. Wednesday Prayer meeting 6pm. Transportation available.

Southside Free Will Baptist, 360 Columbus Street. Pastor Tim Webb. Sunday School 10am. Worship Service 11am. Sunday Evening 6pm. Wednesday Evening 6pm.

Wabash Free Will Baptist Church, 1056 Erie Street. Wednesday evening prayer meeting 6pm. Sunday School 10am, Church 11am; evening service 6pm.

CATHOLIC

St. Bernard Catholic Church, corner of Cass & Sinclair. Father Levi Nkwocha. Saturday Mass 5:30pm. Sunday Masses 9:30am. Tues. & Thurs. 9am; 8:15am during school year. Weekday Masses: Mon., Wed., Fri. 5:30pm; Tues. & Thurs., 9am. Sacrament of Reconciliation 4:15-5:15pm Saturday or by appointment (260) 563-4750.

St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Main Street in Lagro. Holy Mass 12:30pm the 1st Sunday of the month except January and February.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Christian Heritage Church, 2776 River Road. (260) 774-3016. Pastor Tim Prater. Sunday 8:30am. Radio Ministry 95.9 WKUZ. Sunday School 9:30am. Morning Service 10:30am. Sunday evening 6pm. Wednesday evening 6pm.

LaFontaine Christian Church, 202 Bruner Pike, LaFontaine. Minister Brad Wright. (765) 981-2101. Sunday School 9am, Worship 10:30am, Nursery & Jr. Church available.

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Church of Christ, Wabash (corner of N Wabash Street and US 24). Evangelist Josh Fennell (260) 563-8234. Sunday School 9am. Morning Worship 10am. Evening Worship 6:30pm. Wednesday Service 7pm. Wednesday Kid's Jam 7pm.

CHURCH OF GOD

First Church of God, 525 N. Miami Street. Pastor Robert Rensberger. (260) 563-5346. Sunday School at 9:15am, for all ages. Continental breakfast at 10am. Sunday Morning Worship is at 10:30am. Nursery care is available during worship service. Stair lift available.

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

Wabash Church of the Brethren, 645 Bond Street (off Falls Avenue). Interim, Pastor Doug Veal. (260) 563-5291. Wherever you are on life's journey, come join us as we continue the work of Jesus…Peacefully, Simply, Together. Sunday School 9:30am. Worship 10:30am. Children's church and nursery available during worship.

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

Wabash Christian Church, 110 W Hill Street. Rev. Haley Asberry, Minister. (260) 563-4179. Worship 9:30am. Sunday School 11am. Nursery provided.

INDEPENDENT CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bachelor Creek Church of Christ, 4 miles north of Wabash on St. Rd. 15; phone 260-563-4109; website: bachelorcreek.com; Solomon David, Lead Minister; Michael Eaton, Worship Minister; Ken Goble, Senior Adults Minister; Taylor McSarland, Women's Director; David Diener, Student Minister; Tyler Leland, Children's Minister; Nate Tlyer, Youth & Outreach Minister; Ryan Keim, Next Step Minister; Janet Legesse, Early Childhood Director. NOW OFFERING 2 SERVICE TIMES. Adult Bible Fellowship & Worship, 9:15am, 10:45am.

LUTHERAN

Living Faith Lutheran Church (NALC), 242 S Huntington St. Wabash IN. Pastor Tom Curry. Worship begins each Sunday morning at 10:10 am with Bible study classes for all ages at 9:00 am. Everyone is welcome to join us for worship and a time of fellowship after each service. Wednesday evenings include soup supper at 6:00 pm followed by an informal service at 7:00 pm. www.LivingFaithWabash.org

Trinity Lutheran Church (ELCA), 1500 S Wabash Street. Pastor Dr. Kent Young. (260) 563-6626. We worship our Lord each Sunday at 9:30am with Gospel-based message and Holy Communion. There is a time of fellowship and refreshments immediately following the service. We are handicap accessible and everyone is welcome at Trinity! tlcwabash@gmail.com.

UNITED METHODIST

First United Methodist Church, 110 N Cass Street. Senior Pastor Nathan Whybrew, Pastor of Visitation Rev. John Cook. Youth Pastor Nick Smith. Director of Children's Ministry Angel Hostetler. (260) 563-3108. Sunday Schedule: 8 & 10am Worship Service. 9am Teen & Adult Sunday School & Children's faith learning. 10:15am Sunday School for Pre-School thru 5th Grade following Children's Message (except for 1st Sunday each month). First Friends Early Learning Ministry: age 4 weeks thru 12 years 6am to 6pm weekdays. Carolyn Satterfield, Director. Wesley Academy Pre-School: age 3 through Pre-K. Susan Vanlandingham, Director.

North Manchester United Methodist Church, 306 E Second Street, North Manchester. Pastor Mark Eastway. (260) 982-7537. Worship Service 8:15am & 10:30am. Coffee Fellowship 9am. Sunday School 9:30am.

Richvalley United Methodist Church, 290 N Jefferson. (260) 563-1033. Worship service begins at 9:30am. Nursery available. Sunday School begins at 10:45am for all ages.

Roann United Methodist Church, Corner of Adams and Arnold Street, Roann. Pastor Wayne Balmer. (765) 833-2931. Worship Celebration 9am. Sunday School 10:15am.



UNDER CONSTRUCTION



Photo Credit: ©bigstockphoto.com/gunnar3000

A building under construction goes through many phases. An architect delights in the planning and design process, a builder finds satisfaction in putting it all together, and when it's all built, an interior designer may add the finishing touches. An expert specializes in each part of the plan. Each of us has a plan; we could use some expert help to carry it out. We can construct our life on faith as solid as the walls of our house of worship; we can design our plan within the guidelines set forth in God's Word. Most importantly, we can pray each day for our Creator's guidance, for truly we are each "under construction."

Daily Bible Reading

Psalm 25	Psalm 26	Psalm 27	Psalm 28	Psalm 30	Psalm 31	Psalm 32

Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society ✕ Daily Devotional at DailyBible.AmericanBible.org

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Quick Hits

Packers get cap relief by releasing TE Graham

GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP) — The Green Bay Packers have released tight end Jimmy Graham after the 33-year-old veteran spent two seasons with the franchise.

Packers general manager Brian Gutekunst announced the move Thursday.

"The last two years have certainly been interesting!" Graham tweeted. "A lot of memories, friendships and humbling moments that I will carry with me into the next opportunity. Thank you for the support during our exciting run this year toward that ever so elusive ring."

The move creates about $8 million in cap space for the Packers.

In other moves, the Packers promoted Luke Getsy to quarterbacks/passing game coordinator and Jason Vrable to wide receivers coach, and made Butch Barry a senior analyst.

Titans waive LB Wake, RB Lewis

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — The Tennessee Titans have waived linebacker Cameron Wake after one season into what had been a three-year contract.

The Titans also announced Thursday they waived running back Dion Lewis, who still had two years left on the contract he signed in March 2018.

Sass is first Iditarod musher to reach race's halfway point

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — A musher coming off back-to-back wins in another long-distance sled dog race was the first to reach the halfway point of this year's Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race.

Brent Sass, a native of Minnesota living near the Alaska community of Eureka, arrived late Wednesday with 13 dogs in harness at the checkpoint in Cripple, where Sass said he planned to take his mandatory 24-hour rest period.

He said he was pleased with his team's performance, telling the Iditarod Insider, "Everybody is just smooth trotting, and they're doing their job."

Sass is the two-time defending champion of the 1,000-mile (1,609-kilometer) Yukon Quest International Sled Dog Race, run between Fairbanks and Whitehorse, Yukon, Canada. He won this year's Yukon Quest on Feb. 11.

Submit your news

The *Plain Dealer* is accepting all news, varsity, junior varsity, middle school, elementary school and non-school affiliated recreational sports. To get a brief in the newspaper, please provide final score and any highlights pertaining to the event, including first and last names of participants. Reports must be received by 3 p.m. to make it in the following day's edition. Items may be:

- Emailed to sports@wabashplaindealer.com.
- Called into 260-225-4523 after 11 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Please do not leave complete results on voice mail.
- Mailed into *Plain Dealer,* 123 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Organizations or individuals emailing materials should call the sports department to ensure the information was received. The *Plain Dealer* reserves the right to edit material for length, clarity and/or style, and does not guarantee publication.



Jacob Rude / Plain Dealer

The Southwood boys' basketball team celebrates at the final buzzer of last week's sectional finale match-up with Lakeland Christian.

IHSAA tournament to continue with severely limited crowds

By JACOB RUDE
sports@wabashplaindealer.com

The Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA) announced via press conference from commissioner Bobby Cox on Thursday morning that the state basketball tournament would continue but would crowds would be severely limited moving forward. The move comes as a response to attempt to stem the spread of the coronavirus pandemic, also known as COVID-19.

Fans will not be permitted to attend the games as attendance will be strictly limited. Each participating regional school will be allotted 75 tickets that will go to essential personnel of the schools, coaches, administrative staff and immediate family of players.

Southwood's boys' basketball team is set to travel to Frankfort on Saturday for the regional to take on Covington.

Non-varsity boys basketball participants, cheerleaders, dance teams, school mascots and pep bands are not permitted to attend the games.

Anyone holding a regional ticket will be issued a full refund at the point of purchase. Individuals must present the ticket(s) in order to receive a refund.

Regional games will continue to be streamed at IHSAAtv.org and its affiliates as well as previously approved broadcast stations.

Individuals who are at higher risk for the disease as defined by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) are strongly encouraged to refrain from attendance. This includes older adults and people who have serious chronic medical conditions such as heart disease, diabetes and lung disease.

Cox noted that the move to limit the spectators at the state tournament events will cost the IHSAA nearly half a million dollars.

Even stricter measures will be in place for the gymnastic state finals taking place at Ball State this weekend as no spectators will be allowed into the event.

March Madness: NCAA Tournaments canceled due to coronavirus

By RALPH D. RUSSO
AP College Sports Writer

The NCAA canceled its men's and women's basketball tournaments on Thursday because of the spread of coronavirus, putting an abrupt end to the season less than a month before champions were to be crowned.

The unprecedented move comes a day after the NCAA announced the games that were scheduled to start next week would go on, but played in mostly empty arenas. That plan was scrapped as every major American sports league from the NBA to MLB put the brakes on its season due to concerns about the pandemic.

"This decision is based on the evolving COVID-19 public health threat, our ability to ensure the events do not contribute to the spread of the pandemic and the impracticality of hosting such events at any time during the academic year given the ongoing decisions by other entities," the NCAA said in statement.

The NCAA canceled championships in every spring sport, which include hockey, baseball and lacrosse.

The stunning end to the basketball season came about four hours after a frantic morning when conference tournaments around the country came to a sudden halt. Moments away from tipoff at some arenas, and minutes apart, each Power Five conference canceled its remaining games.

At Madison Square Garden in New York, the Big East game between Creighton and St. John's did start, but at halftime the conference called off that game and all the rest. Turns out that was the last Division I basketball to be played this season.

Smaller conferences followed suit, shutting down their tournaments, and within a few hours 58 men's games scheduled in 16 conferences had been canceled.

Then the conferences began shutting down all athletic activities, for at least a few weeks like the Southeastern Conference, or indefinitely like the Atlantic Coast Conference.

A few hours later, the NCAA put an end to it all.

For most people, the new coronavirus causes only mild or moderate symptoms, such as fever and cough. For some, especially older adults and people with existing health problems, it can cause more severe illness, including pneumonia. The vast majority of people recover from the virus.

The NCAA men's basketball tournament has been played every year since 1939 when Oregon won the championship in Evanston, Illinois. It has grown through the years, both in size and stature. The three-week tournament generates almost a billion dollars in revenue each year for the NCAA and its hundreds of member universities and colleges, most coming from a television contract with CBS and Turner that pays the NCAA almost $800 million annually.

It is now one of the biggest events in American sports, a basketball marathon of buzzer-beaters, upset and thrills involving 68 teams. The field for the men's tournament was scheduled to be announced Sunday, creating the famous bracket that sports fans would obsess over in office pools and at sportsbooks.

The 64-team women's field was to be revealed Monday. The NCAA women's tournament began in 1982 and it, too, has become a big event, raising the profile of the sport.

"I'm disappointed but I totally understand. I really feel for the senior student-athletes; every student athlete, but particularly the

See **NCAA**, page B2

MLB delays opening day by at least 2 weeks

By RONALD BLUM
AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK — Major League Baseball delayed the start of its season by at least two weeks because of the coronavirus outbreak and suspended the rest of its spring training game schedule.

Opening day had been scheduled for March 26. The decision announced by Commissioner Rob Manfred on Thursday left open whether each team would still play a 162-game schedule.

"It's unfortunate but I think it's the proper measure we need to take now given the situation the country's in and the world's in," New York Yankees slugger Giancarlo Stanton said. "It's important to know that some things are bigger than baseball, bigger than sports at the moment. Once we're able to hopefully get a hold on some things and get some questions answered we can figure out when things can continue."

The announcement came while some spring training games in Florida were still in progress. MLB followed the NBA, NHL, MLS and college basketball tournaments in altering its schedule because of the pandemic. The minor league baseball season, which was to start April 9, also was being delayed.

"We're ultimately all people, we all love the game of baseball but this is a far bigger issue for all of us right now, and we're trying to work our way through it together," Seattle Mariners owner John Stanton said at the team's camp in Peoria, Arizona.

"I believe that this is going to be something that will have a lot more twists and turns to it. I don't have a high degree of confidence that we will start on April 9," he said.

MLB had continued to play into Thursday, two weeks before openers at Dodger Stadium, Camden Yards and other parks. But baseball changed course after Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis said at a morning news conference he had strongly recommended to local authorities and organizers that they limit all mass gatherings.

"MLB and the clubs have been preparing a variety of contingency plans regarding the 2020 regular season schedule," the baseball commissioner's office said in a statement. "MLB will announce the effects on the schedule at an appropriate time and will remain flexible as events warrant, with the hope of resuming normal operations as soon as possible."

MLB had not had a mass postponement of openers since 1995, when the season was shortened from 162 games to 144 following a 7 ½-month players' strike that also wiped out the 1994 World Series. Opening day was pushed back from April 2 to April 26. Player salaries were reduced by 11.1 percent in 1995 because the games were lost due to a strike.

Players with big league contracts likely will be allowed to leave spring training and go home if they want to, but no decision on that was made public.

After a 32-day spring training lockout in 1990 caused opening day to be delayed a week until April 9, the season was extended by three days to allow each team a full 162-game schedule.

See **MLB**, page B2

On ice: NHL suspends season amid coronavirus pandemic

By STEPHEN WHYNO and JOHN WAWROW
AP Hockey Writers

The NHL is placing its season on ice — for now.

NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman said Thursday the league will "pause" its season, effective immediately, because of the coronavirus pandemic. The move came one day after the NBA suspended its season after a player tested positive for COVID-19.

Bettman said there are hopes of resuming the season, holding the playoffs and still handing out the Stanley Cup.

"The NHL has been attempting to follow the mandates of health experts and local authorities, while preparing for any possible developments without taking premature or unnecessary measures," Bettman said. "However, following last night's news that an NBA player has tested positive for coronavirus – and given that our leagues share so many facilities and locker rooms and it now seems likely that some member of the NHL community would test positive at some point – it is no longer appropriate to try to continue to play games at this time."

The NHL Players' Association backed the decision, calling it "an appropriate course of action at this time" and adding: "The players are looking forward to the opportunity to resume play in front of hockey fans everywhere."

The NHL is halting play with 189 games left in the season and uncertainty about how many more – if any – could be played before the playoffs, which typically begin in early April. A handful of European hockey leagues have already called off the remainder of their seasons.

"We will continue to monitor all the appropriate medical advice, and we will encourage our players and other members of the NHL community to take all reasonable precautions – including by self-quarantine, where appropriate," Bettman said. "Our goal is to resume play as soon as it is appropriate and prudent, so that we will be able to complete the season and award the Stanley Cup."

Numerous teams set to play road games were already finalizing plans to return home. The NHL preceded its decision by having all 31 teams cancel practices and pre-game skates.

It was difficult to determine what steps teams or players can take in regards to practicing or even working out during the hiatus. For now, Martin Frk's go-ahead goal 4:41 remaining in the Los Angeles Kings' 3-2 win over

See **NHL**, page B2

SCOREBOARD

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Conference Tournaments

ATLANTIC COAST CONFERENCE
Tuesday's Games
Pittsburgh 81, Wake Forest 72
North Carolina 78, Virginia Tech 56
Wednesday's Games
Clemson 69, Miami 64
NC State 73, Pittsburgh 58
Notre Dame 80, Boston College 58
Syracuse 81, North Carolina 53
Thursday's Games
Clemson vs. Florida St. at Greensboro, N.C., ppd
NC State vs. Duke at Greensboro, N.C., ppd
Notre Dame vs. Virginia at Greensboro, ppd
Syracuse vs. Louisville at Greensboro, N.C., ppd

BIG EAST CONFERENCE
Wednesday's Games
St. John's 75, Georgetown 62
DePaul 71, Xavier 67
Thursday's Games
St. John's vs. Creighton at New York, ppd
Butler vs. Providence at New York, ppd
DePaul vs. Villanova at New York, ppd
Marquette vs. Seton Hall at New York, ppd

BIG TEN CONFERENCE
Wednesday's Games
Minnesota 74, Northwestern 57
Indiana 89, Nebraska 64
Thursday's Games
Michigan vs. Rutgers at Indianapolis, ppd
Minnesota vs. Iowa at Indianapolis, ppd
Purdue vs. Ohio St. at Indianapolis, ppd
Indiana vs. Penn St. at Indianapolis, ppd

Wednesday's Men's Results

INDIANA 89, NEBRASKA 64

NEBRASKA (7-25)
Ouedraogo 0-5 1-2 1, Cheatham 6-16 3-4 17, Easley 0-5 0-0 0, J.Green 5-13 3-5 15, Thorbjarnarson 3-10 2-2 8, Cross 7-17 5-5 23, Arop 0-1 0-0 0, Banks 0-1 0-2 0, Vedral 0-2 0-0 0. Totals 21-70 14-20 64.
INDIANA (20-12)
Brunk 4-5 0-0 8, Jackson-Davis 5-10 1-2 11, Smith 6-12 0-0 12, Durham 3-5 3-4 11, Phinisee 4-6 0-0 9, Franklin 3-6 4-7 13, D.Green 5-12 0-0 12, Hunter 1-3 0-0 3, Thompson 1-3 2-4 4, Davis 3-3 0-0 6, Bybee 0-0 0-0 0, Childress 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 35-66 10-17 89.
Halftime—Indiana 43-34. 3-Point Goals—Nebraska 8-30 (Cross 4-9, Cheatham 2-6, J.Green 2-8, Vedral 0-1, Easley 0-2, Thorbjarnarson 0-4), Indiana 9-22 (Franklin 3-5, Durham 2-3, D.Green 2-8, Phinisee 1-2, Hunter 1-3, Smith 0-1). Rebounds—Nebraska 35 (Cross 9), Indiana 47 (Jackson-Davis 17). Assists—Nebraska 12 (J.Green 4), Indiana 23 (Phinisee 7). Total Fouls—Nebraska 17, Indiana 17.

NOTRE DAME 80,
BOSTON COLLEGE 58

BOSTON COLLEGE (13-19)
Felder 1-4 1-2 3, Mitchell 5-8 10-11 20, Williams 2-6 0-0 6, Heath 6-12 0-0 15, Thornton 0-9 0-0 0, Jar.Hamilton 1-5 0-0 2, Jai. Hamilton 5-11 1-2 12, Rishwain 0-3 0-0 0, Kraljevic 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 20-59 12-15 58.
NOTRE DAME (20-12)
Mooney 4-11 0-0 8, Gibbs 5-10 5-6 16, Goodwin 6-14 1-1 15, Hubb 5-12 0-0 14, Pflueger 2-4 0-0 5, Laszewski 4-9 0-0 10, Durham 3-5 6-8 12, Djogo 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 29-65 12-15 80.
Halftime—Notre Dame 36-21. 3-Point Goals—Boston College 6-20 (Heath 3-6, Williams 2-5, Jai.Hamilton 1-2, Jar.Hamilton 0-1, Rishwain 0-2, Thornton 0-4), Notre Dame 10-25 (Hubb 4-9, Laszewski 2-5, Goodwin 2-6, Pflueger 1-2, Gibbs 1-3). Rebounds—Boston College 31 (Mitchell 13), Notre Dame 38 (Mooney 11). Assists—Boston College 7 (Heath 4), Notre Dame 19 (Hubb 9). Total Fouls—Boston College 17, Notre Dame 16. A—20,809 (23,500).

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Toronto	46	18	.719	—
x-Boston	43	21	.672	3
Phila.	39	26	.600	7½
Brooklyn	30	34	.469	16
New York	21	45	.318	26

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	41	24	.631	—
Orlando	30	35	.462	11
Washington	24	40	.375	16½
Charlotte	23	42	.354	18
Atlanta	20	47	.299	22

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Milwaukee	53	12	.815	—
Indiana	39	26	.600	14
Chicago	22	43	.338	31
Detroit	20	46	.303	33½
Cleveland	19	46	.292	34

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	40	24	.625	—
Dallas	40	27	.597	1½
Memphis	32	33	.492	8½
New Orleans	28	36	.438	12
San Antonio	27	36	.429	12½

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Denver	43	22	.662	—
Utah	41	23	.641	1½
Oklahoma City	40	24	.625	2½
Portland	29	37	.439	14½
Minnesota	19	45	.297	23½

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-L.A. Lakers	49	14	.778	—
L.A. Clippers	44	20	.688	5½
Sacramento	28	36	.438	21½
Phoenix	26	39	.400	24
Golden State	15	50	.231	35

x-clinched playoff spot
Wednesday's Games
Phila. 124, Detroit 106
Charlotte 109, Miami 98
New York 136, Atlanta 131, OT
Dallas 113, Denver 97
Utah at Oklahoma City, ppd
New Orleans at Sacramento, ppd
Thursday's Games
Chicago at Orlando, ppd
Boston at Milwaukee, ppd
Memphis at Portland, ppd
Brooklyn at Golden State, ppd
Houston at L.A. Lakers, ppd
Today's Games
Cleveland at Charlotte, ppd
Washington at Boston, ppd
Minnesota at Oklahoma City, ppd
New York at Miami, ppd
Denver at San Antonio, ppd
New Orleans at Utah, ppd
Brooklyn at L.A. Clippers, ppd

ON THE AIR

AUTO RACING
2:30 p.m.
FS1 — NASCAR Xfinity Series: Practice, Atlanta
3:30 p.m.
FS1 — NASCAR Cup Series: Practice, Atlanta
4:30 p.m.
FS1 — NASCAR Gander RV & Outdoors Truck Series: Final Practice, Atlanta
5 p.m.
FS1 — NASCAR Xfinity Series: Final Practice, Atlanta
5:30 p.m.
FS1 — NASCAR Cup Series: Final Practice, Atlanta
BOXING
10 p.m.
SHO — ShoBox: The New Generation, Hinckley, Minn.
COLLEGE SOFTBALL
4 p.m.
ACCN — Boston College at Louisville

CYCLING
2 a.m.
NBCSN — UCI: The Paris-Nice, Stage 5, 141 miles, Gannat – La Côte-Saint-André, France (taped)
2 a.m. (Saturday)
NBCSN — UCI: The Paris-Nice, Stage 6, 97 miles, Sorgues – Apt, France (taped)
GOLF
1 p.m.
GOLF — PGA Tour: The Players Championship, Second Round, Palm Valley, Fla.
SKIING
5 p.m.
NBCSN — FIS Alpine World Cup: Women's Giant Slalom, Norway
SOCCER (MEN'S)
3:20 p.m.
FS2 — Bundesliga: SC Paderborn vs. Fortuna Düsseldorf
11 p.m.
FS2 — Liga MX: Pachuca vs. Tijuana

Saturday's Games
Phoenix at Dallas, ppd
Cleveland at Atlanta, ppd
Detroit at Toronto, ppd
Indiana at Phila., ppd
Chicago at Miami, ppd
Golden State at Milwaukee, ppd
Minnesota at San Antonio, ppd
Memphis at Utah, ppd
New Orleans at L.A. Clippers, ppd
Sunday's Games
Houston at Portland, ppd
Charlotte at Orlando, ppd
Oklahoma City at Washington, ppd
Boston at Chicago, ppd
Brooklyn at Sacramento, ppd
Denver at L.A. Lakers, ppd

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Boston	70	44	14	12	100	227	174
Tampa Bay	70	43	21	6	92	245	195
Toronto	70	36	25	9	81	238	227
Florida	69	35	26	8	78	231	228
Montreal	71	31	31	9	71	212	221
Buffalo	69	30	31	8	68	195	217
Ottawa	71	25	34	12	62	191	243
Detroit	71	17	49	5	39	145	267

Metropolitan Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	69	41	20	8	90	240	215
Philadelphia	69	41	21	7	89	232	196
Pittsburgh	69	40	23	6	86	224	196
Carolina	68	38	25	5	81	222	193
Columbus	70	33	22	15	81	180	187
N.Y. Islanders	68	35	23	10	80	192	193
N.Y. Rangers	70	37	28	5	79	234	222
New Jersey	69	28	29	12	68	189	230

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Central Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
St. Louis	71	42	19	10	94	225	193
Colorado	70	42	20	8	92	237	191
Dallas	69	37	24	8	82	180	177
Winnipeg	71	37	28	6	80	216	203
Nashville	69	35	26	8	78	215	217
Minnesota	69	35	27	7	77	220	220
Chicago	70	32	30	8	72	212	218

Pacific Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Vegas	71	39	24	8	86	227	211
Edmonton	71	37	25	9	83	225	217
Calgary	70	36	27	7	79	210	215
Vancouver	69	36	27	6	78	228	217
Arizona	70	33	29	8	74	195	187
Anaheim	71	29	33	9	67	187	226
Los Angeles	70	29	35	6	64	178	212
San Jose	70	29	36	5	63	182	226

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.
Wednesday's Games
Chicago 6, San Jose 2
Winnipeg 4, Edmonton 2
St. Louis 4, Anaheim 2
Colorado 3, N.Y. Rangers 2, OT
Los Angeles 3, Ottawa 2
Thursday's Games
Buffalo at Montreal, ppd
Carolina at New Jersey, ppd
Detroit at Washington, ppd
Nashville at Toronto, ppd
Philadelphia at Tampa Bay, ppd
Pittsburgh at Columbus, ppd
Vegas at Minnesota, ppd
Florida at Dallas, ppd
N.Y. Islanders at Calgary, ppd
Vancouver at Arizona, ppd
Today's Games
Boston at Buffalo, ppd
San Jose at St. Louis, ppd
Ottawa at Chicago, ppd
N.Y. Islanders at Edmonton, ppd
Vancouver at Colorado, ppd
Saturday's Games
Minnesota at Philadelphia, ppd
Anaheim at Los Angeles, ppd
Detroit at Tampa Bay, ppd
Chicago at Washington, ppd
Nashville at Columbus, ppd
New Jersey at Florida, ppd
Pittsburgh at Carolina, ppd
Toronto at Boston, ppd
N.Y. Rangers at Arizona, ppd
San Jose at Dallas, ppd
Winnipeg at Calgary, ppd

MLB

Spring Training Glance
Tuesday's Games
Detroit 4, Pittsburgh 1
N.Y. Mets 7, Houston (ss) 4
Boston 3, St. Louis 2
Toronto 4, N.Y. Yankees 2
Miami 3, Washington 2
Phila. 5, Minnesota 1
Atlanta (ss) 3, Houston (ss) 0
Chicago Cubs 16, San Francisco 3
Texas 9, Chicago White Sox 2
Kansas City (ss) 4, Oakland 2
Arizona 10, Cincinnati (ss) 2
Milwaukee 5, Kansas City (ss) 2
Seattle 3, L.A. Angels 1
Cincinnati (ss) 5, Colorado 5
Baltimore 6, Atlanta (ss) 3
Wednesday's Games
Washington 6, Houston 2
Miami 3, N.Y. Yankees 1
Atlanta 3, Minnesota 2
Toronto 14, Baltimore 2
N.Y. Mets 7, St. Louis 3
San Francisco 6, Texas 4
Kansas City at Cleveland, cancelled
Oakland at L.A. Angels, cancelled
Chicago White Sox at Colorado, cancelled
Boston 3, Tampa Bay 1
Chicago Cubs 3, San Diego (ss) 2
L.A. Dodgers 4, Milwaukee 1
Seattle 4, San Diego (ss) 2
Thursday's Games
Atlanta vs. Detroit at Lakeland, Fla.
N.Y. Yankees vs. Washington at West Palm Beach, Fla.
Miami vs. St. Louis at Jupiter, Fla.
Phila. vs. Tampa Bay at Port Charlotte, Fla.
Toronto (ss) vs. Pittsburgh at Bradenton, Fla.
Canada Jr. vs. Toronto (ss) at Dunedin, Fla.
L.A. Dodgers (ss) vs. Chicago Cubs at Mesa, Ariz.
Oakland vs. L.A. Dodgers (ss) at Glendale, Ariz.
Seattle (ss) vs. Kansas City at Surprise, Ariz.
San Diego vs. Cleveland at Goodyear, Ariz.
Colorado vs. Milwaukee (ss) at Phoenix
Cincinnati vs. Seattle (ss) at Peoria, Ariz.
Milwaukee (ss) vs. Arizona at Scottsdale, Ariz.
Baltimore vs. Minnesota at Fort Myers, Fla.
Today's Games
All spring training games postponed due to coronavirus

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
Major League Baseball
American League
BALTIMORE ORIOLES — Optioned LHP Keegan Akin to Norfolk (IL).
CHICAGO White SOX — Optioned C Seby Zavala to Charlotte (IL). Optioned RHP Zach Burdi, LHP Bernardo Flores Jr. and OFs Micker Adolofo, Luis Basabe and Blake Rutherford to Birmingham (SL). Re-assigned RHPs Tayron Guerrero and Bryan Mitchell and LHPs Caleb Frare, Kodi Medeiros and Matt Tomshaw to minor league camp.
HOUSTON ASTROS — Re-assigned RHP Bielak, IF Osvaldo Duarte, RHP Ralph Garza, C Lorenzo Quintana, RHP Andre Scrubb and OF Stephen Wrenn to minor league camp.
SEATTLE MARINERS — Re-assigned LHP Anthoney Misiewicz to minor league camp.
TEXAS RANGERS — Optioned LHP Kolby Allard and RHP Demarcus Evans to the Nashville Sounds(PCL). Optioned INF Sherten Apostel and OF Leody Taveras to the Frisco Roughriders(Texas) Re-assigned RHP Joe Barlow and LHPs Brian Flynn and James Jones to minor league camp. Placed LHP Yohander Mendez on the suspended list.
National League
CHICAGO CUBS — Optiond EHP James Norwood to the Iowa Cubs (PCL). Re-assigned RHPs Dakota Mekkes and Ben Taylor and LHPs Danny Hultzen and Wyatt Short to minor league camp.
NEW YORK METS — Agreed to terms with INF Pete Alonso, RHP Tyler Bashor, INF/OF J.D. Davis, INF Andres Gimenez, LHP Stephen Gonsalves, INF Luis Guillorme, RHP Jordan Humphreys, RHP Franklyn Kilome, RHP Walker Lockett, INF/OF Jeff McNeil, C Tomas Nido, RHP Stephen Nogosek, RHP Corey Oswalt, RHP Jacob Rhame, INF Amed Rosario, C Ali Sanchez, RHP Paul Sewald, INF/OF Dominic Smith, RHP Drew Smith, LHP Thomas Szapucki, and LHP Daniel Zamora to one-year contracts. Optioned RHP Corey Oswald to minor league camp. Re-assigned LHP David Peterson and RHP Pedro Payano to minor league camp.
Minor League Baseball
Atlantic League
LONG ISLAND DUCKS — Signed RHP Travis Banwart, INF/LHP Clint Freeman.
Frontier League
GATEWAY GRIZZLIES — Signed INF Luca Navigato. Traded OF Jarius Richards to Windy City ThunderBolts.
NEW JERSEY JACKALS — Signed 3b T.J. Ward.
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS MINERS — Signed RHP Alejandro Chacin.
SUSSEX COUNTY MINERS — Signed INF Aaron Ford.
BASKETBALL
NBA G League
CAPITOL CITY GO-GO — Added F Jordan Bell off waivers from the Memphis Grizzlies. Waived F Stephan Jankovic.
FOOTBALL
National Football League
DENVER BRONCOS — Signed LS Jacob Bobenmoyer.
HOUSTON TEXANS — Signed WR DeAndre Carter to a contract extension.
TENNESSEE TITANS — Agreed to a one-year extension with OLB Reggie Gilbert.
HOCKEY
National Hockey League
DALLAS STARS — Recalled LW Joel Kiviranta from Texas (AHL).
NEW YORK RANGERS — Recalled F Steven Fogerty from Hartford (AHL), Re-assigned F Jake Elmer to Hartford (AHL).
PHOENIX COYOTES — Assigned D Aaron Ness to Tuscon (AHL).
AHL
GRAND RAPIDS GRIFFINS — Signed D Tory Dello to an amateur tryout.
HARTFORD WOLFPACK — Signed Conner Bleackley to a professional tryout agreement.
MILWAUKEE ADMIRALS — Signed F Michael Huntebrinker.
SOCCER
Major League Soccer
SPORTING KANSAS CITY — Announced the retirement of MF Benny Feilhaber.
United Soccer League Championship
USL CHAMPIONSHIP DISCIPLINE — Suspended Real Mnrchs SLC D Noah Powder one game.

Jazz stars Mitchell, Gobert test positive; Gobert apologizes

By TIM REYNOLDS
AP Basketball Writer

Donovan Mitchell of the Utah Jazz confirmed Thursday that he has tested positive for the coronavirus, saying that he is personally dealing with the pandemic that has temporarily shut down the NBA and other major sports leagues.

Later, his Jazz teammate Rudy Gobert – the first NBA player to test positive, which prompted the league to suspend the season – also confirmed his status and apologized. "I was careless and make no excuse," Gobert said in an Instagram post.

Mitchell's positive test was not known until early Thursday, the first full day of the NBA's hiatus. Jazz players, staff and some beat writers covering the team were tested Wednesday night in Oklahoma City, where Utah was to play the Thunder in a game that was called off moments before tipoff once word about Gobert's positive test was received.

Also Thursday, the Detroit Pistons, Boston Celtics, Washington Wizards and Toronto Raptors – teams that have all recently played against Gobert, Mitchell and the Jazz – all said that they were having some players and staff self-quarantine for as many as 14 days. The Cleveland Cavaliers, another team that has recently faced Utah, said they are not mandating quarantines yet but would if any of their players exhibit symptoms.

"Thanks to everyone who has been reaching out since hearing the news about my positive test," Mitchell wrote in an Instagram post. "We are all learning more about the seriousness of this situation and hopefully people can continue to educate themselves and realize that they need to behave responsibly both for their own health and for the well being of those around them."

Gobert was not among those behaving responsibly.

It started as a joke: Before leaving a media session at shootaround in Salt Lake City on Monday in advance of a game against Detroit, Gobert touched all the tape recorders that were placed before him on a table, devices that reporters who cover the Jazz were using.

"You know, there's not much we can do right now," Gobert said in that session when asked about how teams are dealing with the virus. And a minute or so later, before he ran out a side door, he touched all the recorders.

It isn't so funny now – not with two Jazz players now having tested positive for the virus, and with a league on edge. It is not known if Gobert is responsible for Mitchell contracting the virus or vice versa.

"I have gone through so many emotions since learning of my diagnosis … mostly fear, anxiety, and embarrassment," Gobert wrote. "The first and most important thing is I would like to publicly apologize to the people that I may have endangered. At the time, I had no idea I was even infected."

For most people, the new coronavirus causes only mild or moderate symptoms, such as fever and cough. For some, especially older adults and people with existing health problems, it can cause more severe illness, including pneumonia.

The vast majority of people recover from the new virus. According to the WHO, people with mild illness recover in about two weeks, while those with more severe illness may take three to six weeks to recover.

Gobert became the center of why the league has been shut down for the foreseeable future after he became the first positive test. Among the immediate fallout:

■ Utah's game against Oklahoma City Wednesday night was canceled and the season was suspended.

■ Washington, which played Utah in late February, said Thursday that it was having its players, coaches and basketball operations personnel self-quarantine for the next three to four days. The Wizards played at Utah on Feb. 29.

■ Washington also played Tuesday against the New York Knicks, another recent opponent of the Jazz. The Wizards said players, coaches and basketball operations staff who have flu-like symptoms will be tested for coronavirus.

■ The Raptors also said Thursday they are self-quarantining. "Our players, coaches and traveling staff have all been advised to into self-isolation for 14 days," the team said, also confirming that Toronto players had been tested.

■ The Celtics said in a statement they have been constant communication with Massachusetts Department of Public Health officials. The Celtics played the Jazz on Friday. The Celtics believe it is unlikely that anyone from the team came into contact with Gobert or Mitchell while they were contagious.

But out of an abundance of caution the Celtics are having players and staff who were in close contact with Jazz players or who traveled to Milwaukee on Wednesday to self-quarantine through the weekend. Players and staff will then be tested for the virus.

■ Gobert and Mitchell shared the court with 50 opposing players in those games, plus 15 referees. One of the refs was Courtney Kirkland, who was to work th e New Orleans-Sacramento game on Wednesday that got canceled because he had been on the court for a Jazz game two nights earlier.

■ Still unknown is how many ballboys, stat-crew employees, security guards, attendants and others were exposed by being around the Jazz or Gobert in recent days. Some Jazz reporters said they were getting tested for COVID-19.

"I'm sure I probably had contact with him," Detroit's Langston Galloway said.

The NBA shutdown could cost teams well into the hundreds of millions of dollars depending on how long it lasts. Those teams that have faced Gobert in recent days will likely face some testing.

State health labs and many commercial labs can conduct tests on mouth swabs, and health officials estimate that the system could handle about 20,000 tests per day.

"I will do whatever I can to support using my experience as way to educate others and prevent the spread of this virus," Gobert wrote. "I am under great care and will fully recover. Thank you again for all your support. I encourage everyone to take all of the steps to stay safe and healthy."

The Jazz said Thursday that the team practice facility and Vivint Smart Home Arena – where the team plays games and other concerts and events take place – are being cleaned and sanitized. It remains unclear when the Jazz will use either of those facilities again.

NCAA

From page B1

seniors because this is their last chance for the fans," said Oregon women's coach Kelly Graves, whose team would have entered the tournament as favorites to reach the Final Four in New Orleans. "There's something more important than the games going on. I've kind of come to grips to that a little more than a few hours ago."

Games would have started on the men's side on Tuesday in Dayton, Ohio, before spreading out to eight sites from coast-to-coast from next Thursday through Sunday. The women's tournament was scheduled to begin March 20, with first- and second-round games to be played at 16 sites on or near the campuses of the top teams.

The men's Final Four was to be played April 4 and 6 at Mercedes-Benz Stadium in Atlanta. The semifinals and final typically pack football stadiums for the games, and after the champion is crowned the best moments of the year's tournament are wrapped up into the "One Shining Moment" montage that has become a staple of CBS' television coverage through the years.

Instead, March Madness took on a different meaning as sports have virtually shut down.

NHL

From page B1

Ottawa will stand as the final tally of the 2019-20 season.

Following St. Louis' 4-2 win at Anaheim, Blues coach Craig Berube was already wondereing how to prepare for the unscheduled and indefinite time off.

"You can practice as much as you want but without playing games it is difficult," said Berube, who played 17 seasons in the NHL. "It's a bigger issue than a hockey game. We have to deal with what we have to. We have to keep ourselves in shape and as sharp as we can if we start up again."

Former Sabres captain Brian Gionta was supposed to be among the players honored on Friday night as part of Buffalo's 50th anniversary celebrations.

"I think that's the least of the worries," Gionta said. "I think everybody is worried about their families, their loved ones, and the bigger picture in general, and all that other stuff is secondary noise. It's something we haven't seen in our lifetime and it's much bigger than sports."

For most people, the new coronavirus causes only mild or moderate symptoms, such as fever and cough. For some, especially older adults and people with existing health problems, it can cause more severe illness, including pneumonia. The vast majority of people recover from the new virus.

Sports in Asia, Europe and now North America have been hit particularly hard by concerns about the virus and the cancellations came with dizzying speed this week The NBA suspended its season after Utah Jazz center Rudy Gobert tested positive for COVID-19 His teammate, Donovan Mitchell, also tested positive. Major League Baseball pushed back opening day at least two weeks.

The Stanley Cup has been awarded every year since 1893 with two exceptions: 1919, when the final was canceled after five games because of the Spanish flu outbreak, and 2005, when the season was called off because of a lockout.

The NHL has not said any player has tested positive for COVID-19. The Washington Capitals, who used the same visiting locker room as the Jazz at Madison Square Garden in New York after them, said they "will continue to closely monitor the health of players, coaches and hockey operations staff."

MLB

From page B1

Baseball's first strike lasted from April 1-13 in 1972, and the season started April 15. Teams played 153-156 games.

This year marked the earliest opening day other than for international games. As it stood, Game 7 of the World Series would've been Oct. 28.

The Texas Rangers had been looking forward to the opening of their new retractable-roof ballpark, Globe Life Field, first with an exhibition game against St. Louis on March 23. The formal opener had been scheduled for March 31 against the Los Angeles Angels.

If regular-season games are lost this year, MLB could attempt to reduce salaries by citing paragraph 11 of the Uniform Player's Contract, which covers national emergencies. The announcement Thursday said the decision was made "due to the national emergency created by the coronavirus pandemic."

"This contract is subject to federal or state legislation, regulations, executive or other official orders or other governmental action, now or hereafter in effect respecting military, naval, air or other governmental service, which may directly or indirectly affect the player, club or the league," every Uniform Player's Contract states.

The provision also states the agreement is "subject also to the right of the commissioner to suspend the operation of this contract during any national emergency during which Major League Baseball is not played."

Spring training games were suspended as of 4 p.m. EDT Thursday. Qualifying games for the 2021 World Baseball Classic also were called off.

Adoptive mom writes rules for strangers with questions

DEAR ABBY: I'm an adoptive mother who has had more than my fair share of inappropriate comments directed at me and my children. They usually come from strangers or acquaintances. I'm about up to here with them, so I thought I would write you about etiquette for interacting with adoptive families:

Though we may stand out to you, we think of ourselves as a family like any other. Please do NOT start a conversation with us that has the sole purpose of pointing out the obvious. Remember that my children have ears.

Please do not ask questions in front of them about them or their adoption. Don't ask in private unless you are a close friend. Better yet, let me broach the subject.

Dear Abby



Please do not ALWAYS comment on my daughters' hair. Yes, it is nicely braided and decorated with beautiful beads. But isn't there something else you can say about them? Maybe just once? And please don't talk in front of them about how hard it must be for me to do their hair. I LOVE braiding it.

Please don't say I am a saint for adopting them. I chose to adopt because I never wanted to have biological children. And please don't say how nice it is for me to love them so much. Why would you expect that I wouldn't love my children?

Please do not pity my children. They have amazing lives, are fiercely loved and have bright futures ahead. And please do not introduce me to others as someone "who has adopted two girls from Africa." Because my daughters are black does NOT mean they are from Africa! I would much prefer you simply say, "Anne has two 8-year-old daughters."

And last, please remember that you and I are both people who love our families, and we have more in common than you might think. – Anne From California

DEAR ANNE: Thank you for a great letter. Sometimes well-meaning people simply don't think about the impact their words can have when they begin a conversation. I hope my readers will take your words to heart because they are valid.

DEAR ABBY: While separating photographs after my divorce from my wife, I found some photographs of relatives' and friends' weddings. Is there any protocol on what to do with them? In some cases, the marriages (and friendships) have ended, so I assume I should just dispose of them, correct? I will send my ex-wife any photos of her and her family, but none that include my family. Is this the right way to go?

We don't live in the same area anymore, and our families were never close. I would be interested to hear what you think should be done with family photos that include me, my ex-wife and our children. Should they go just to the children? I am in a new committed relationship, and I do not wish to keep any photos of my ex for any reason. Can you please help? – Needs To Know In New York

DEAR NEEDS TO KNOW: Send the family pictures to your children and instruct them to share them with your ex IF she would like to have them. If you still have a relationship with the friends and relatives, inform them that you found the photos and ask if they would like to have them. That would be the considerate thing to do.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

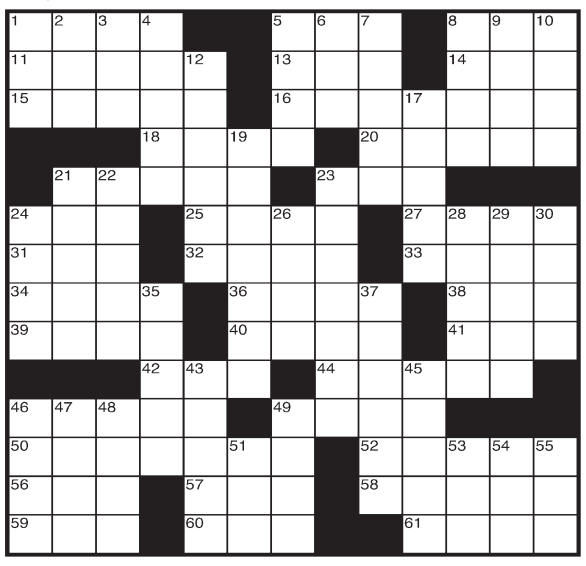
1 Watch
5 Oz. or lb.
8 Engineer's place
11 Field units
13 Estuary
14 Have — — at
15 Express gratitude
16 Sang door-to-door
18 Smidgens
20 Public sentiment
21 Ristorante fare
23 Flavor enhancer
24 Table part
25 Jazz's — Fitzgerald
27 Mane
31 Nest-egg letters
32 Leaf through
33 Antoinette lost hers
34 Plant parasite
36 Crazy about
38 — Juan
39 "Jeopardy!" host
40 Consumer
41 Passe
42 Sidekick
44 Full of suds
46 Harsh-voiced bird
49 Yeah, right! (2 wds.)
50 Dental filling
52 Serious theater
56 "Nova" network
57 Letter before sigma
58 To date (2 wds.)
59 Familiar digit
60 Chatter
61 Wineglass feature

DOWN

1 Cauldron
2 Berlin pronoun
3 Baseball stat
4 Makes one's way
5 Eyebrow shapes
6 Actress Farrow
7 Rainproof covers
8 Holler
9 Mellows
10 Portend
12 Ice Capades performer
17 Must
19 Ominous
21 Grave risk
22 Banded quartz
23 Senseless folly
24 Succotash bean
26 Cambodia neighbor
28 Noted fabulist
29 Where Florence is
30 Tear
35 Oust
37 Robots
43 Steaming
45 Curly coifs
46 Engrossed
47 Lectern
48 Flower container
49 On a rampage
51 Caught ya!
53 Shipboard direction
54 "Diamond Lil"
55 Jacket feature

Answer to Previous Puzzle

C	O	D		E	L	M	O		D	E	P	T
H	I	E		L	I	A	R		I	D	E	A
A	L	E		I	B	I	S		D	I	E	M
P	Y	R	E	X		L	O	A	D	E	R	S
			B	I	B		N	F	L			
	Z	E	B	R	A	S		R	E	L	A	X
Y	A	M			J	O	T		Y	O	G	I
E	N	I	D		A	D	O			C	A	V
T	E	R	R	A		A	N	C	H	O	R	
				U	P	C		I	L	E		
B	A	R	B	E	L	L		U	R	G	E	S
A	H	A	B			E	A	S	T		N	T	H
L	O	G	E			A	V	E	C		A	N	A
D	Y	E	D			T	A	C	H		T	A	D



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SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

		9		7	3	5		
8		1		4		3		
3				8				
5	8				4			
	9			2			3	
			8				5	7
				9				2
		7		6		1		5
		2	4	5		7		

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How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

1	8	9	4	6	7	3	5	2
7	2	3	8	9	5	1	6	4
4	5	6	3	1	2	7	8	9
8	1	7	9	5	3	4	2	6
3	9	2	1	4	6	8	7	5
5	6	4	7	2	8	9	1	3
2	7	1	5	3	9	6	4	8
6	3	8	2	7	4	5	9	1
9	4	5	6	8	1	2	3	7

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

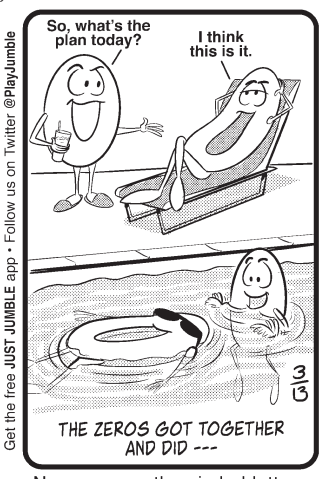
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

RIHYA

UNHAM

GARNDO

CETTUS



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: STASH ENJOY LENGTH CROUCH
Answer: Disposable hypodermic needles get thrown away after a single use because — THEY ARE SHOT

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THE FAMILY CIRCUS

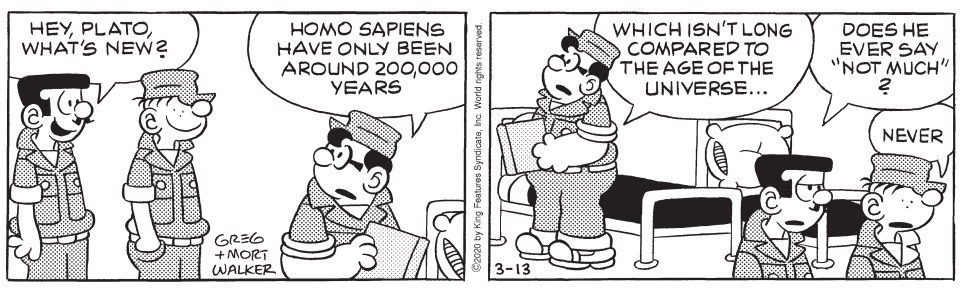
By Bil Keane



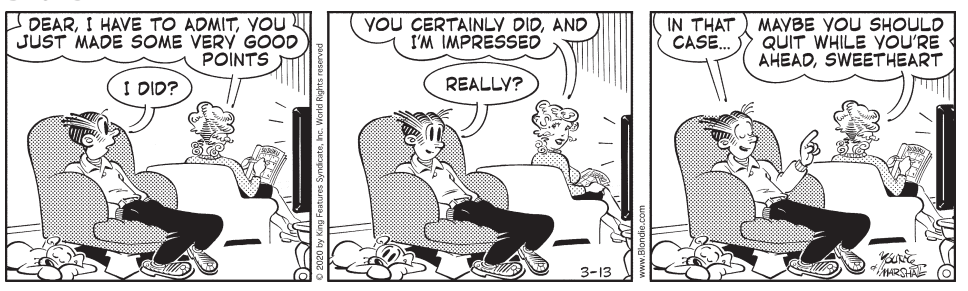
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Our seven-year-old sub gives us a glimpse of the homefront in Daddy's absence.

BEETLE BAILEY



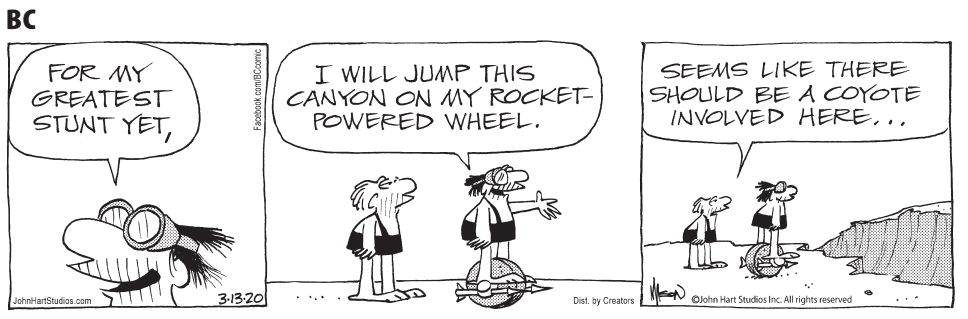
BLONDIE



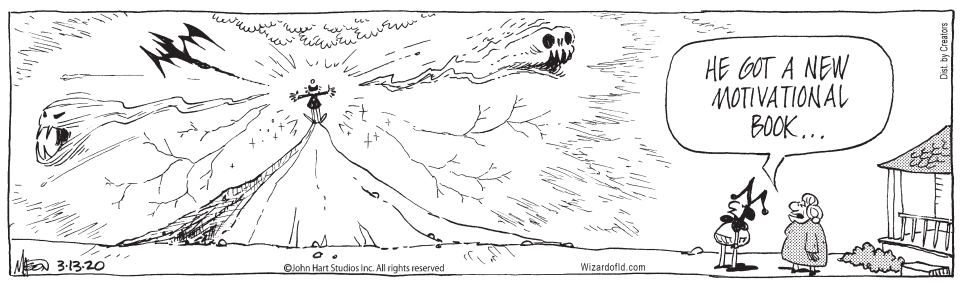
HI & LOIS



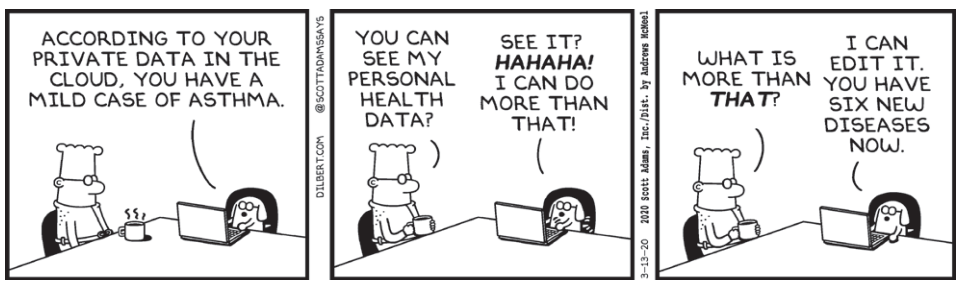
BC



WIZARD OF ID



DILBERT



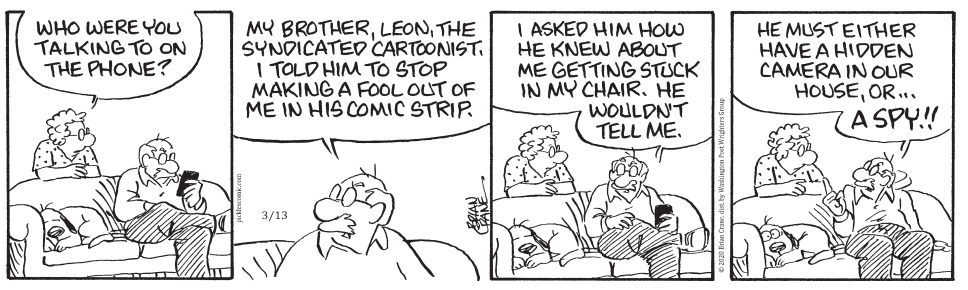
GARFIELD



FORT KNOX



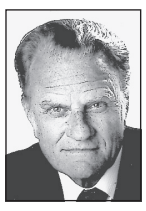
PICKLES



God doesn't let His children endure hardship alone

From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham

Billy Graham
My Answer



Q: My teenage granddaughter has lost her eyesight and is devastated. I am at a loss to know how to encourage her. She is a Christian but doubts that she will ever be of use to the Lord – B.G.

A: It is easy for others to say, but the Bible teaches that many will go through trials and tribulations in this life. The psalmist wrote: "Praise our God, all peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard; he has preserved our lives and kept our feet from slipping. For you, O God, tested us; you refined us like silver ... we went through fire and water, but you brought us to a place of abundance" (Psalm 66:8-12, NIV).

In the mid-20th century a little girl was blinded because the retinas of her eyes were destroyed when she looked at a bomb blast during an attack in Korea. Her father tried to kill her by throwing her into a river. He eventually left her at a home for deaf and blind children and she was eventually adopted by Americans who loved and nurtured her. This little girl – Kim Wickes – grew up to study and train her voice to sing to millions of people around the world. Kim's experiences could have destroyed her and left her hopeless, but by God's grace she triumphed over adversity.

There are countless Christians who face daily pain and persecution. But they know the joy of the Lord because He does not allow His children to endure hardship alone. The Savior of the world endured His pain and sorrow alone and because He understands, He enables others to emerge better and stronger when they rely on Him to see them through. Just as fire refines silver, suffering purifies Christians. Why this happens to some and not others is a mystery we cannot fully comprehend, but we can trust Him to never forsake us.

CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

"L NRSLRCR YIKY KSS UHKOB SRKO YH YIR BKZR ESKDR — KXO YIKY LB AIRURCRU KSS UHKOB SRKO YH."

— ALSSLR XRSBHX

Previous Solution: "From my dad I learned to be good to people, to always be honest and straightforward." — Luke Bryan

TODAY'S CLUE: C equals D

Wabash Plain Dealer

Readers' Choice

2020

BALLOT ENTRY

MUST BE FILLED OUT COMPLETELY

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Daytime phone: _____

Signature: _____

Are you a subscriber? Yes ☐ No ☐

ONLY ONE ENTRY PER PERSON WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Rules for Reader's Choice Award Entries

1. Complete ballot by entering the first and last name of the individual or business name if appropriate beside the category that applies. Fill in as many categories per entry as you like. Entries that are not legible will not be counted.
2. Complete the entry form to the left completely.
3. No mechanical reproductions of ballots will be accepted. All entries must be original newspaper ballots.
4. Send or bring the completed ballot to:
Reader's Choice
Wabash Plain Dealer
99 W. Canal St.
Wabash, IN 46992
5. Ballots MUST be received no later than noon on Friday, April 3rd.
6. Winners will be announced in upcoming editions.

Greatest Entertainment:
Bingo _____
Bowling Center _____
Church Youth Program _____
Festival/Event _____
Golf Course _____
Live Theatre _____
DJ _____

Greatest:
Bartender _____
Buffet _____
Family Restaurant _____
All Around Restaurant _____
Fine Dining _____
Restaurant Best Service _____
Restaurant Fast Food _____
Sports Bar/Tavern _____

Greatest Place to have:
BBQ Ribs _____
Breakfast _____
Pizza _____
Prime Rib _____
Sandwich _____
Steak _____
Chicken _____
Coffee _____
Hamburger _____
Tenderloin _____
Wings _____
Donut _____
Hot Dog _____
Fish _____
Margarita _____
Sub _____
Soup _____

Greatest Desserts and Sweets:
Cake _____
Ice Cream _____
Pie _____
Shake/Malt _____

Greatest Ethnic Restaurants:
Chinese Food _____
Mexican Food _____

Greatest Service Providers:
Bank Teller _____
Coach _____
Firefighter _____
Not-for-Profit Agency _____
Police Officer _____
Receptionist/Adm. Assistant _____
Teacher/School Staff Person _____

Shopping And Services Greatest:
Agriculture Dealer _____
Accountant _____
Air Duct Cleaning _____
Apartment Complex _____
Assisted Living _____
Auto Detailer _____
Auto Dealer _____
Auto Repair Shop _____
Bank _____
Banquet Facility _____
Bookstore _____
Carpet Cleaner _____
Car Wash _____
Caterer _____
Contractor _____
Credit Union _____

Dance Lessons/School _____
Preschool/Day Care Center _____
Electrician _____
Employment Agency _____
Excavating Service _____
Financial Planning Advisor (person) ____
Fitness Center/Gym _____
Florist _____
Funeral Home _____
Garden Center _____
Gift Shop _____
Hair Salon Men/Women _____
Senior Health & Rehab Center _____
Heating & Cooling/Plumbing _____
Home Health Care _____
Home Improvements _____
Hospice _____
Insurance Agent _____
Interior Decorator _____
Investment Company _____
Landscaping/Lawn Care _____
Martial Arts _____
Massage Therapy _____
Minister _____
Nail Technician/ Salon _____
Pet Grooming _____
Photo Studio/Photographer _____
Place to get a loan _____
Place to get a Mortgage _____
Printer _____
Shoe Repair Shop _____
Realtor _____
Retirement Center/Senior Living _____
Shoe Store _____
Supermarket _____
Tanning Salon _____
Tourist Attraction _____
Towing Company _____
Travel Agency _____
Veterinarian _____

Greatest Place to Buy:

Antiques _____
Appliances _____
Cell Phone _____
Computer _____
Floor Covering _____
Furniture _____
Hardware/Tools _____
Hearing Aid _____
Jewelry _____
Liquor _____
Mattress _____
Meat _____
Motorcycles _____
Pet Supplies/Care _____
Tattoos _____
Tires/Auto Service

Greatest (Please put what company they are with)

Attorney _____
Cardiologist _____
Chiropractor _____
Community Nurse _____
Cosmetic Surgeon _____
Dentist _____
Dermatologist _____
Doctor _____
Hospital Nurse _____
Medical Imaging/X-Ray _____
Nurse Educator _____
OB/GYN _____
Oncologist _____
Optometrist _____
Orthodontist _____
Pediatrician _____
Pharmacy _____
Physical/Occupational Therapist _____
Podiatrist _____
Surgeon _____
Ultrasound _____

Wabash Plain Dealer Readers' Choice 2020

BALLOT ENTRY CONTINUED

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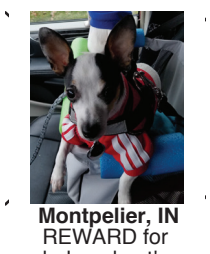
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Lost



Montpelier, IN
REWARD for beloved pet's safe return. Six pound eight inch tall female, smooth hair fox terrier. Primary color white with black and tan markings. Lost in Montpellier, IN February 25th. near Coffel's Family Market. Please call: 765-618-8738

GARAGE/ ESTATE SALE

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General Help



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CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANTS
All Shifts

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MARION
Retail Sales Person
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Nutrien Ag
Solutions
Amboy, IN 46911
Part time and
Seasonal workers
needed

- Have a valid drivers license
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- Duties include making deliveries to customers and driving tender trucks to the fields
- Pre-employment drug screening

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Contact Information:
Matt Getts
O: (765)395-7772
F: (765)395-7773
matt.getts@nutrien.com

MARION
Staggs Floor Covering is looking for a full-time Warehouse Manager. This is someone who is organized and self-motivated. Also you will need to make sure you have reliable transportation. You can turn in a resume and references by email to Dawn@staggsfloorcovering.com or dropping them off.

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North Manchester, IN
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2 BR 208 (duplex) S Branson St. $100/wk; tenant pays electric & gas

2 BR 509 E Bradford St. $165-175/wk; basic utilities included

2 BR 215 E 3rd St. $170/wk; basic utilities included

3 BR 509 E Bradford St. $200/wk. basic utilities included

JONESBORO
1 BR 224 E 10th St. $100/wk; tenant pays electric

MATTHEWS
1 BR 135 E 10th St. $75/wk; tenant pays electric

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2 BR 1133 W 6th St. $500/mo; tenant pays all utilities

3 BR 104 (duplex) S Race St; $500/mo. tenant pays all utilities

3 BR 501 (duplex) W 1st St; $500/mo. tenant pays all utilities

3 BR 616 N Washington St. $550/mo; tenant pays all utilities

3 BR 1305 S Boots St; $550/mo; tenant pays all utilities

3 BR 1723 W 4th St. $600/mo; tenant pays all utilities

3 BR 1423 W 3rd St. $600/mo; tenant pays all utilities

3 BR 1619 W Jeffras St; $600/mo. tenant pays all utilities

3 BR 436 E Marshall St. $600/mo; tenant pays all utilities

4 BR 1652 W 2nd St; $600/mo; tenant pays all utilities

MATTHEWS
2 BR 211 E 9th St. $500/mo; tenant pays all utilities

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05 GMC Envoy $2,000
07 Jeep Cherokee $2,500
97 Lexus LX450 $4,000
03 Mercedes E500 $2,800
06 Pontiac G6 $1,200
01 Pontiac Grand Am - $1,000
02 Subaru Impreza $1,500
06 Ford Ranger $1,500
99 Ford F350 $2,500

Blinn Auto Sales
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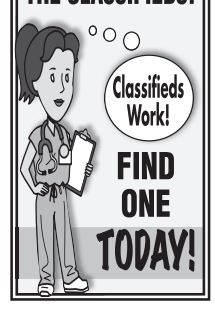
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FINANCIAL

LEGALS

CAREERS ARE MADE IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!



Legals

Clerk of the Wabash Circuit/Superior Courts 69 West Hill Street Wabash, Indiana 46992 Lori J Draper, Clerk Phone (260) 563-0661 x1230 Fax: (260) 569-1352 Wabash County Election Board Public Meeting Notice For Thursday, March 19th, 2020 at 9:00 a m The Wabash County Election Board will meet on Thursday, March 19th at 9:00 a. m for the testing of the Voting machines and voting system. The meeting will be held in the office of the County Clerk, located on the 1st Floor of the Wabash County Judicial Center, 69 W. Hill Street, Wabash Indiana. The meeting is open to the public. The building is handicap accessible. No cell phones are allowed in the Judicial building.
Lori J. Draper
Clerk of Wabash Circuit/Superior Courts
Secretary, Wabash County election Board
HSPAXLP 3/13/2020

Legals

WABASH COUNTY PLAN COMMISSION WABASH COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Notice is hereby given of a public hearing before the Wabash County Board of Zoning Appeals on the 24th day of MARCH, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the office of the Wabash County Plan Commission, top floor the Wabash County Court House, Wabash, Indiana. The purpose of the hearing is to consider the application of: MATTHEW AND AMANDA SCHULER for VARIANCE #: 4 A VARIANCE FROM THE SUB-DIVISION ORDINANCE TO MAKE MORE THAN 1 SPLIT OF LESS THAN 20 ACRES IN A 5 YEAR PERIOD. The geographical area affected by the changes requested is generally described as: PART OF THE SOUTH EAST 1/4 OF SECTION 1, TOWNSHIP 28N, RANGE 5E, PAW PAW TOWNSHIP, WABASH COUNTY A copy of the proposal is now on file in the office of the Wabash County Plan Commission and is available for public examination. Any written objections that are filed with the secretary of the Wabash County Plan Commission prior to the hearing will be considered and, at the hearing, the Wabash County Plan Commission will consider any additional comments concerning the application. The hearing may be continued from time to time as may be found necessary. NOTICE: Indiana Code 36-7-4-920 forbids any person from communicating with a member of the Board of Zoning Appeals before the hearing with the intent to influence a member's action on a matter pending before the Board.
LARRY C. THRUSH
Attorney at Law
One North Wabash
Wabash, Indiana 46992
Attorney for the Wabash
County Plan Commission HSPAXLP 3/13/2020

Legals

STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF WABASH IN THE WABASH CIRCUIT COURT, CAUSE NUMBER 85C01-2001-JT-000001.
IN THE MATTER OF THE TERMINATION OF THE PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP: ILLDOB 3/13/2012 AND ALLEN LEROY LEE (FATHER) DAWN LEE (MOTHER).
SUMMONS FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION & NOTICE OF TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS HEARING:
TO: Dawn Lee
Whereabouts unknown
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the above noted parent whose whereabouts are unknown, that the Indiana Department of Child Services has filed a Petition for Involuntary Termination of your Parental Rights, and that an adjudication hearing has been scheduled with the Court.
YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear before the Judge of the Wabash Circuit Court, 49 West Hill Street, Wabash, IN 46992 - 260-563-0661 for a(n) Initial/Fact Finding Hearing on 4/21/2020 at 9:00 AM and to answer the Petition for Termination of your Parental Rights of said child. You are further notified that if the allegations in said petition are true, and/or if you fail to appear at the hearing, the Juvenile Court may terminate your parent-child relationship; and if the Court terminates your parent-child relationship you will lose all parental rights, powers, privileges, immunities, duties and obligations including any rights to custody, control, visitation, or support in said child; and if the Court terminates your parent-child relationship, it will be permanently terminated, and thereafter you may not contest an adoption or other placement of said child. You are entitled to representation by an attorney, provided by the State if applicable, throughout these proceedings to terminate the parent-child relationship.
YOU MUST RESPOND by appearing in person or by an attorney within thirty (30) days after the last publication of this notice, and in the event you fail to do so, adjudication on said petition and termination of your parental rights may be entered against you, in your absence, without further notice.
3/3/2020, Lori J. Draper, Clerk.
Alicia C Cripe, 25286-52
Attorney, Indiana Department of Child Services
1928 S. Dixon Kokomo, IN 46902
FAX 317-972-8969
Office: 765-865-2202
hspaxlp.3/6/20, 3/13/20, 3/20/20

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Special Notice



Special Notice

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